


BLOOD AND STEEL!

**THE HISTORY, CUSTOMS, AND
TRADITIONS OF THE**



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FORWARD

The 3d Armored Cavalry Regiment has a long, proud history. For more than 160 years, the Brave Rifles have served on the frontiers of freedom, defending the national interests of the United States. The Regiment is now the last heavy cavalry regiment in the Army.

People may serve with a unit and then move on, but the history, customs and traditions of that unit remain in place to form a legacy that is passed on from one generation of its Soldiers to the next. These customs and traditions define that unit. Due to its origin as the Regiment of Mounted Riflemen, the *only* regiment of mounted riflemen, this Regiment has a unique place in the history of the U.S. Army. Over the years many customs and traditions have evolved, some of which may also be found in other cavalry units. Many of them, however, are unique to this Regiment.

This publication has been prepared to familiarize you, the *Trooper*, with the history, customs, and traditions of the 3d Armored Cavalry Regiment. As a member of the Regiment, you will be required to know and use them. If you appear in front of a promotion or other type of board, you will be asked questions about the history of your unit. You may take an active part in them, such as The Order of the Spur or at Regimental functions, or you might contribute to the adoption of new customs or traditions. They will become part of your life in this Regiment. You will also write part of its new history.

You can see the objects that embody the history of the Regiment at the Third Cavalry Museum. It is *your* museum. You are encouraged to visit, with your family or friends, and see this legacy. It will help you to understand the Regiment's place in the history of this country.

As you serve in the 3d Armored Cavalry Regiment, you will help to keep the history, customs, and traditions of the Regiment alive. Never forget what they represent—the service and sacrifices of your predecessors.

The Staff of the Third Cavalry Museum



INTRODUCTION

For over 160 years, the nation has called upon the service of the Regiment of Mounted Riflemen to explore unknown lands, defend national borders, and combat the enemies of freedom. The Third Cavalry has distinguished itself as the most respected and reliable Cavalry unit in the Army. Since 1846, its history has been marked by unequaled pride and courage. The 3d Armored Cavalry Regiment's renowned commitment to civic and military values, its patriotism, discipline, readiness, self-sacrifice, decisiveness, and generosity in victory, remains strong today. The Third U.S. Cavalry has performed with distinction during peacetime training and under the toughest conditions of combat.

Troopers of the Third U.S. Cavalry have gone into action during ten major conflicts: the Indian Wars, the Mexican War, the Civil War, the Spanish-American War, the Philippine Insurrection, World War I, World War II, the 1991 Persian Gulf War, Bosnia, and Operation Iraqi Freedom. The Regiment earned forty campaign streamers during these conflicts as well as a Presidential Unit Citation, and twenty-three of the Regiment's Troopers received the Medal of Honor. Your predecessors won lopsided victories against numerically superior forces during the Mexican War, routed Confederate forces at the battles of Val Verde and Glorieta Pass during the Civil War, defeated the enemy in the largest battle of the Indian Wars, quelled an Apache uprising, seized San Juan Hill in Cuba during the Spanish American War, conducted counter-insurgency operations in the Philippines, led General Patton's Third Army across Europe during World War II, fought with distinction as the reconnaissance force for XVIII Airborne Corps during Operation Desert Storm enforced peace in Bosnia, and, most recently, conducted extremely effective counter-insurgency operations over one-third of the land mass of Iraq during Operation Iraqi Freedom.

We are in a long war against Terrorism and the leaders and Troopers of the Third Cavalry remain fully engaged and committed to fighting and winning the Global War on Terrorism to preserve the freedom we cherish. The Regiment, because of its unique capabilities and its distinguished record, will continue to receive challenging missions. You have joined an elite organization and are now part of the history of the Regiment. Learn the customs and traditions of this great Regiment and of the U.S. Cavalry and together we will preserve the legacy we have inherited.

BRAVE RIFLES!

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "M. A. Bills", written in a cursive style.

MICHAEL A. BILLS
72nd Colonel

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PART I: THE STORY OF THE REGIMENT OF MOUNTED RIFLEMEN

The Regiment of Mounted Riflemen was authorized by an Act of Congress on 19 May 1845. This brought into existence a new organization in the United States Army: a regiment of riflemen, mounted to create greater mobility than the infantry, and equipped with Model 1841 percussion rifles to provide greater range and accuracy than the muskets of the infantry or the dragoon's smooth bore carbines.

From the beginning, the Mounted Rifles were considered a separate branch of the service. This is reflected by the distinctive uniforms, weapons, and equipment that were issued when the Regiment was organized.

Companies C and F were recruited in the mountain regions of Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, and North Carolina while the rest came from Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Kentucky, and Tennessee. Company I was not formed until October, at New Orleans, because its commanding officer, Captain Charles F. Ruff, was on detached service.



Corporal, Regiment of Mounted Riflemen, ca.1846, courtesy of Randy Steffen/University of Oklahoma Press.

The Mexican War

The Regiment was organized "for establishing military stations on route to Oregon", and it was under orders to proceed on its mission at the earliest practical date. However, the Mexican War intervened and the troopers found themselves diverted to participate in the invasion of Mexico. As soon as horses and equipment were obtained, the Regiment began moving to New Orleans in detachments of one or two companies.

The Mounted Rifles lost most of their horses in a terrible storm during the voyage across the Gulf of Mexico, forcing them to fight as infantry during most of the Mexican War. This kept the Regiment from being left behind to escort wagon trains and chase guerrillas, allowing it to distinguished itself in six campaigns.

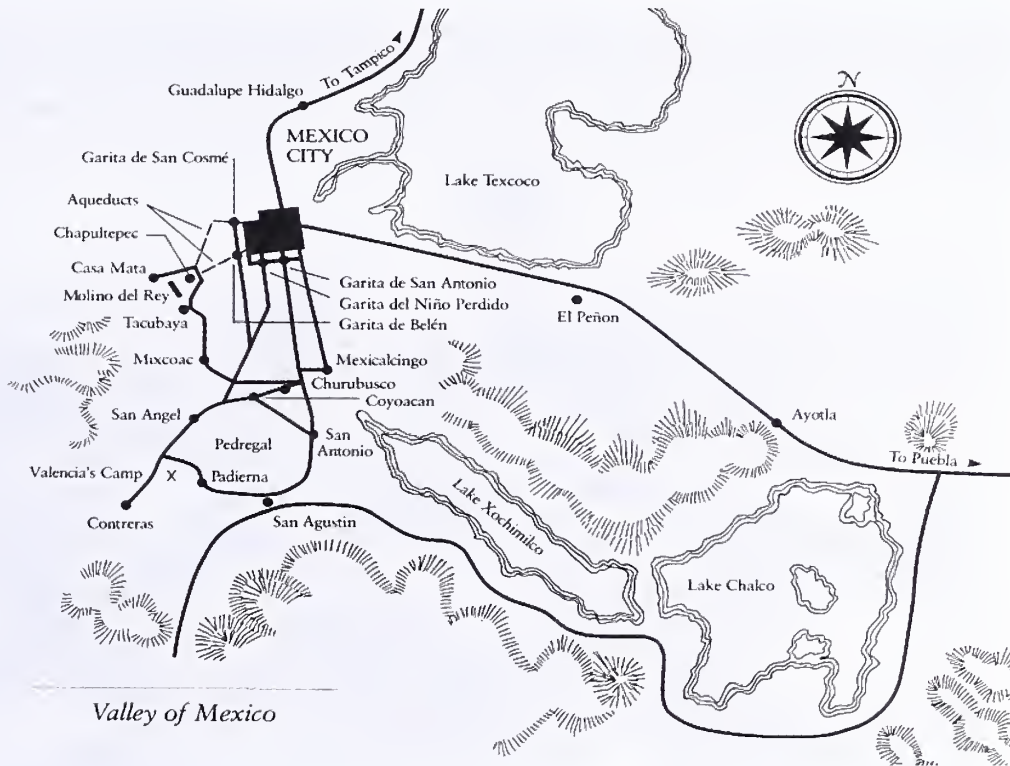
They landed at Vera Cruz on 9 March 1847 and participated in the fighting there until 28 March. On 17 and 18 April, the Regiment found itself in fierce hand-to-hand combat at Cerro Gordo. After refitting at Puebla, the Riflemen fought at Contreras and Churubusco on 19 and 20 August. It was at Contreras that General Scott made the speech from which the Regiment took its Accolade (see Appendix G for details).



"Brave Rifles-Veterans" by Don Prechtel

On 8 September as the advance to Mexico city continued, General Scott learned that a large quantity of gun powder was stored at Molino del Rey (the “Kings Mill”), which formed the western end of the park that included Chapultepec, about 1000 yards to the east. Church bells were reportedly being melted down and cast into cannons there, too. Scott ordered the facility seized.

Major Edwin V. Sumner and 270 Riflemen were tasked with screening the left flank of the assault on the Molino. Beyond a massive stone structure known as the “Casa Mata”, 500 yards further west, 4000 Mexican cavalymen waited to roll up the flank of the attacking Americans. Charging under heavy fire, the Mounted Rifles crossed a deep ravine considered impassible by the Mexicans, attacked and defeated the vastly superior force.



Chapultepec

The most notable action during the Regiment's participation in the Mexican War came on 13 September 1847 when the Regiment participated in the assault on the fortress of Chapultepec. The site of the Mexican National Military Academy, it is described in Steele's American Campaigns:

This stone castle stands on an isolated mound rising 150 feet above the valley; nearly precipitous on the northern, eastern, and part of the southern side, it declines gradually on the east to a cypress grove separating it from Molino del Rey. The grounds were enclosed by a high wall on the southern side and on the northern side by the San Cosme Aqueduct. The castle commanded two of the causeways leading into the City of Mexico, about two miles east of it. The position was defended with cannon.

Chapultepec Castle was taken by a pair of hand-picked, 250-man storming parties, which included Mounted Riflemen under the command of Captain Benjamin S. Roberts, who would later command Company C. Seeing a party of Marines falter during the assault after losing most of their officers, Lieutenant Robert M. Morris of the Mounted Rifles took charge and led them on to victory. During the assault, other elements of the Regiment captured an enemy artillery battery at the foot of the castle.

After these actions, the Regiment was immediately reformed and advanced down the Tacubaya Causeway to storm the Belen Gate which barred the way into Mexico City. The hard-fighting Riflemen captured another artillery battery halfway to the gate at Casa Colorado, and a third during the assault on the gate.

Leading the American forces, the Regiment stormed into Mexico City at 1:20 that afternoon. At 7:00 A.M. on 14 September 1847, Sergeant James Manly of F Company and Captain Benjamin S. Roberts raised the American Flag over the Mexican National Palace while Captain Porter, Commander of F Company, unfurled the Regimental standard from the balcony.



The storming of Chapultepec Castle.

As recalled by Major General John A. Quitman, “When forming my division on the plaza, I perceived several noncommissioned officers hastening towards the palace with their regimental colors. I cried out, ‘No, my brave fellows, take back your colors. The first flag on that palace must be the flag of our country.’ Captain Roberts, of the Rifles, was then directed to bring forward a stand of National Colors and plant them upon the palace.”

Most of the remainder of the Regiment's service in Mexico would consist of police duty and chasing guerrillas. There were, however, engagements with Mexican forces at Matamoras on 23 and Galaxara on 24 November, 1847 and at Santa Fe on 4 January 1848.

As a result of their reputation for bravery and toughness, the Mounted Rifles were usually found in the midst of the action. As General Scott said, "Where bloody work was to be done, 'the Rifles' was the cry, and there they were. All speak of them in terms of praise and admiration."

During the Mexican War, eleven Troopers were commissioned from the ranks and nineteen officers received brevet promotions for gallantry in action. Regimental losses in Mexico were approximately four officers and forty men killed, Thirteen officers and 180 wounded (many of whom would eventually die), and one officer and 180 men who died of other causes.

The Mounted Rifles departed from Vera Cruz on the ship *Tyrone* on 7 July 1848. They arrived at New Orleans on the 17th and sailed up the Mississippi River on the same day aboard the *Aleck Scott*.



Mounted Rifleman in distinctive uniform, with Grimsley saddle, ca. 1847. Painting courtesy of Randy Steffen/University of Oklahoma Press.

On to Oregon

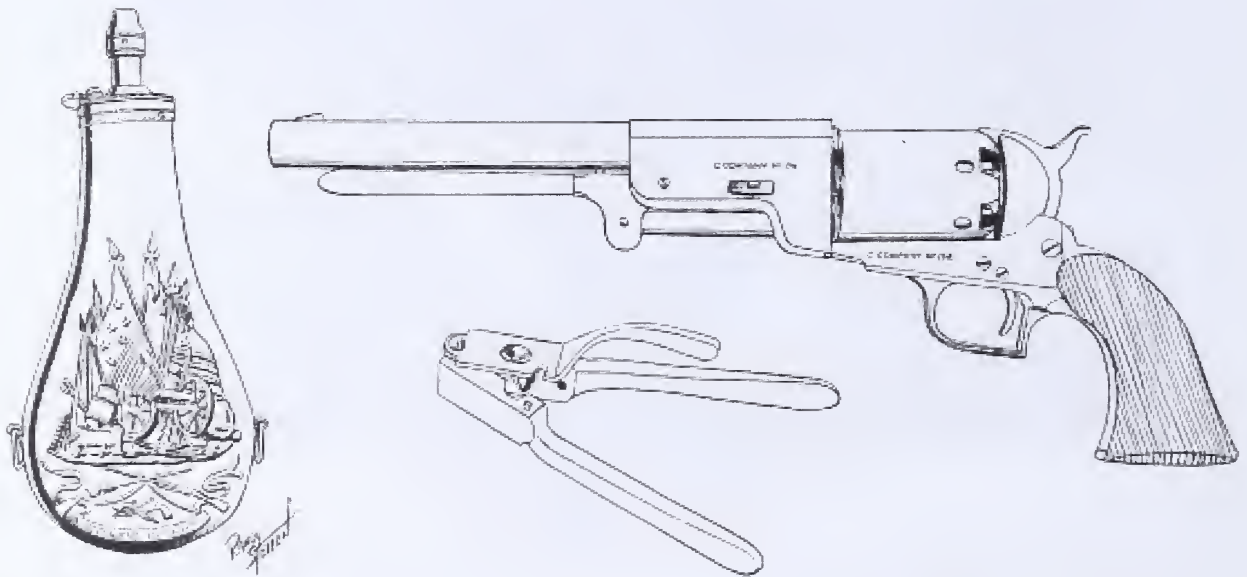
After the Mounted Rifles returned from Mexico to Jefferson Barracks, Missouri, they began to prepare for a 2,000 mile march through territory without roads and often without water, firewood, or grass for their animals. The Regiment departed Jefferson Barracks under the command of LTC William Wing Loring on 10 May 1849 with 700 horses, 1,200 mules, a few oxen, and 171 wagons. There were few buildings on this route other than Fort Kearny, Nebraska and fur trading posts at Laramie and old Fort Hall. Surveying routes while guarding against hostile Indians and dealing with the problems of supply, swollen rivers, and disease made for a grueling mission.

The Army bought the fur trading post at Laramie, leaving Companies C and E to garrison the post. Companies B and F were left to garrison Fort Hall on the Snake River. The main body of the Mounted Rifles arrived at Oregon City in November 1849.

In May 1851, The Mounted Rifles were ordered to return to Jefferson Barracks. All the horses and Troopers were transferred to the 1st Dragoons in California, and the officers and NCOs traveled by ship to Panama. After crossing the Isthmus, they boarded another ship and returned to the Regiment's birthplace, arriving on 16 July 1851. For the next six months, the Regiment recruited, re-equipped, and re-trained.

First Regiment of Mounted Riflemen

In December 1851 the Regiment was ordered to Texas. By January 1852, the Regiment arrived at Fort Merrill, where for the next four years it operated against the Indian tribes living in the area. Patrols, skirmishes, guard, and escort duty were all part of the daily routine. Captain Dabney H. Maury of Company H, posted at Ft. Inge, Texas, remembered, "These Indians had their resting places at Fort Worth... near where the Second Dragoons were stationed, and they



The Walker Colt (U.S. Model 1847) .44 caliber revolver with powder flask and bullet mold. This pistol was co-designed by Samuel Colt and Captain Samuel Walker, commander of Company C, who was killed in action in the Mexican War. The Regiment of Mounted Riflemen was the only unit in the U.S. Army issued this weapon. Courtesy of Randy Steffen/University of Oklahoma Press.

always kept the peace with them. Evidently they regarded us as a separate tribe, for whenever they were about to make a raid down our way, they would tell the Dragoons that they had 'war with the Rifles' and gravely bid them 'Good by.' ”

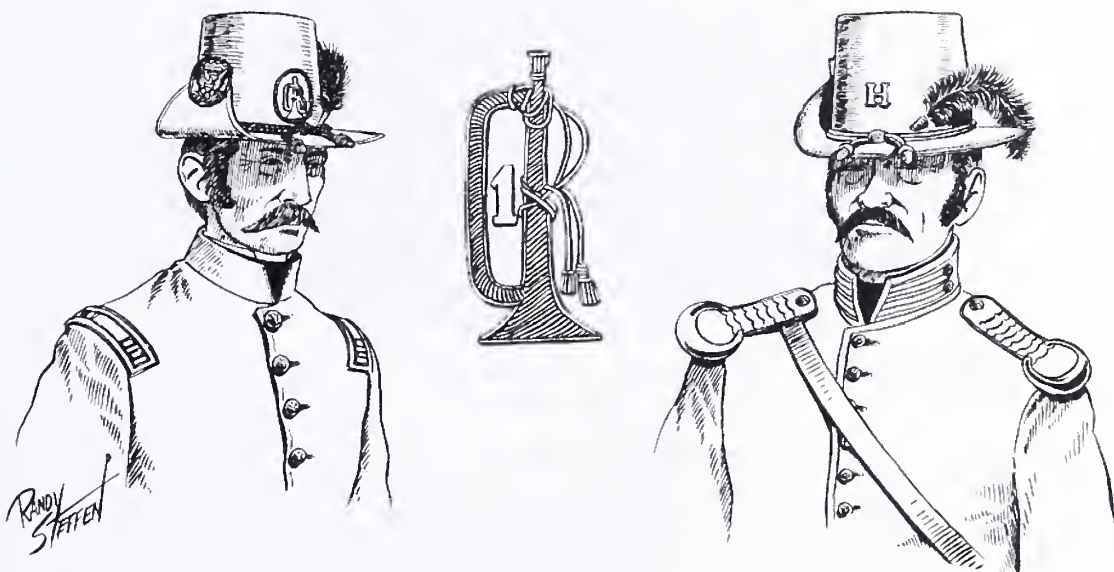
In 1853, the Regiment was redesignated as the First Regiment of Mounted Riflemen because the Army was considering raising another mounted rifle regiment. This did not happen, but the “First” designation of the original regiment was kept. Jeb Stuart, later to gain fame as a Confederate cavalry commander, served with the Regiment as a lieutenant during this period.

In 1856, Indian troubles in the New Mexico Territory required additional troops and the Regiment moved further West. In 1857, Fort Bliss, Texas became the new home base for the Mounted Rifles. Service in New Mexico was constant and most exacting. The Regiment was widely scattered and the number of troops available was wholly inadequate for the task of patrolling an area that extended from Denver, Colorado to the Mexican border, and from West Texas to Arizona, Nevada, and Utah.

The Civil War

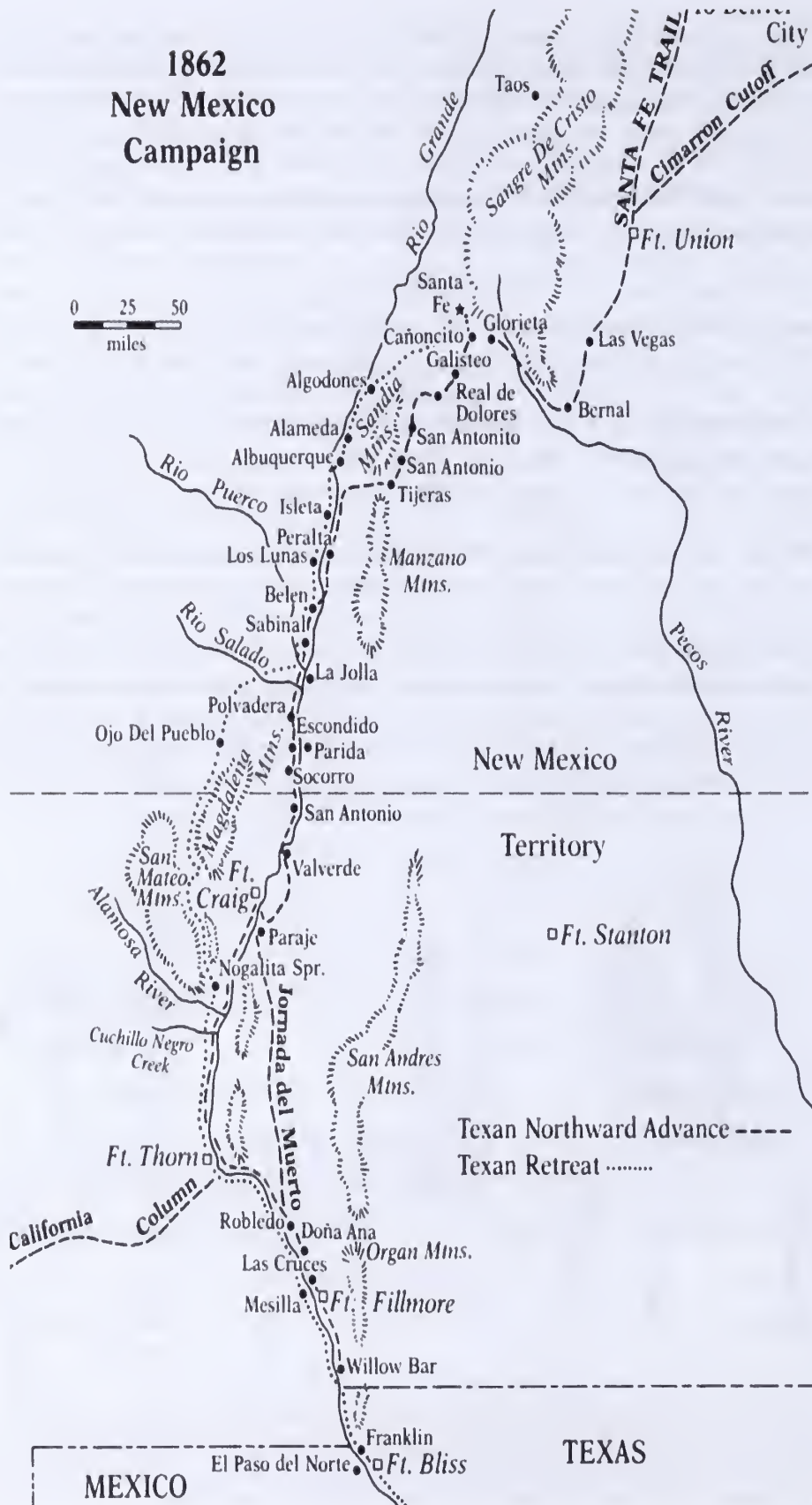
In April 1861, the American Civil War began and the Regimental Commander, Colonel William Wing Loring and twelve other officers left the Regiment to join the cause of the Confederacy. In August 1861, the mounted arm of the U.S. Army was reorganized, and the First Regiment of Mounted Riflemen was redesignated as the 3d United States Cavalry Regiment.

At the outbreak of the war, a Confederate force of about 3000 Texans began a campaign at Fort Bliss, Texas to seize the territories of New Mexico and Colorado. The 3d U.S. Cavalry Regiment was one of the few Regular Army units in the region available to oppose them. On 25 July detachments of Companies B and F were involved in a hard fight at Mesilla and joined Company I when it surrendered with Fort Fillmore on 26 July.



The trumpet pictured above was the branch of service insignia of the 1st Regiment of Mounted Riflemen until it was redesignated as the 3d United States Cavalry Regiment in 1861. Courtesy of Randy Steffen/University of Oklahoma Press.

1862 New Mexico Campaign



Map courtesy Don E. Alberts/University of New Mexico Press

Two officers and eighty-eight men of these companies were taken into captivity and then paroled. The Regiment dwindled down to the point that Companies A, B, and H had their Troopers transferred to other companies in August, leaving the Regiment no larger than a battalion.

Companies C, G, and K defeated a rebel force at Fort Thorn on 26 September. On 21 February 1862, Companies C, D, G, I, and K under the command of Major Thomas Duncan and a provisional artillery battery commanded by Captain Alexander McCrae, formerly commander of Company E, were part of the Union force that fought the Confederates at the Battle of Val Verde. This was the largest Civil War land battle west of the Mississippi River. The battle occurred at an important ford across the Rio Grande river just north Fort Craig, New Mexico. Union forces under Colonel Edward R. S. Canby held Fort Union, which barred the route north.



Captain Alexander McCrae

The Confederate commander, General Henry Hopkins Sibley, moved around them to the ford to draw the Union troops away from the fort since Sibley knew he wasn't strong enough to take it by force. Sibley could not leave this enemy force in his rear as he moved north, but he also needed to capture the food and supplies stored there to support his campaign. Capturing the ford would cut the post off from support by Union forces stationed further north.

Canby moved his command about 5 miles north to the ford to prevent the Confederates from seizing it. In the ensuing battle, McCrae's battery raked the enemy positions with shell and

canister as well as highly effective counter-battery fire that put a number of the Confederate guns out of action. He was ordered to move his battery across the Rio Grande to the eastern side to cover the Union attempt to roll up the Confederate's left flank.

With their line in danger of being outflanked by Union forces, the commander of one of the Texas units ordered a charge to attempt to capture or destroy McRae's battery. The Texans stormed out of a dry wash about 700 yards away, with some 750 men in three waves. Part of the battery's supporting infantry had been moved to another area on the battlefield and the remainder, untested volunteers, fled as the enemy closed on their position, leaving it unprotected. McRae's gunners continued firing into the Confederate ranks, inflicting heavy casualties. One by one, the gun crews were cut down but McRae refused to retreat. The surviving gunners and infantrymen were now engaged in a furious hand-to-hand fight with pistols, clubbed muskets, bayonets, and knives. When the battery was overrun, Canby ordered a withdrawal, leaving the battlefield to the enemy.

Eighty percent of the Union casualties at Val Verde occurred either in or near the McRae's position. Of the eighty-five men in the battery, nineteen (including McRae) were killed, twenty-three wounded, and two missing in action.

The 23 March 1862 edition of the *St. Louis Republican* stated "With his artillerymen cut down, his support either killed, wounded or flying from the field, Capt. McRae sat down calmly on one of his guns, and with revolver in hand, refusing to flee or desert his post, he fought to the last."

McRae was a native of North Carolina who was ostracized by his own family for remaining loyal to the Union cause. His belief in the oath to "preserve, protect, and defend the Constitution" was absolute. He died defending his position in the face of overwhelming odds, adding to the Regiment's tradition of selfless service to the nation.

In his official report, Colonel Canby, commander of the Department of New Mexico, said of McRae, "Pure in character, upright in conduct, devoted to his profession ... Captain McRae died, as he had lived, an example of the best and highest qualities that man can possess."

McRae was buried at Fort Craig until 1867 when his remains were moved to the cemetery at West Point. Alexander McRae was one of only two officers of the Regiment killed in action in the Civil War. A new post south of Fort Craig was named Fort McRae in his honor as was a street in El Paso, Texas.

After the fight at Val Verde, Companies C and K fought an engagement on 3 March with Indians at Comanche Canyon while Company E was involved in the evacuation of Albuquerque and Santa Fe, on 2 through 4 March. Company C was again engaged at Apache Canyon on 26 March.

Company E fought at the battle of Glorieta Pass (also known as the Battle of Pigeon Ranch) on 28 March and at Albuquerque again on 9 April. In the Glorieta Pass fight, a force of Colorado volunteers destroyed the Confederate supply train which left them in unfamiliar, unfriendly territory without food, water, or other supplies, ending the threat of Confederate Control of the territories of New Mexico and Colorado.

Company E was also involved in the pursuit of Confederate forces from 13 to 22 April. At Peralta on 15 April, Companies D, E, G, I, and K were involved in the final action of the campaign against the remnants of the Confederate force who were straggling back to Texas.

The Regiment departed from Fort Union on 30 September and marched 1280 miles to Jefferson Barracks, Missouri, arriving on 23 November. In December 1862, the Regiment moved to Memphis, Tennessee, where it remained until October 1863.

Between October and December 1863, the 3d Cavalry participated in operations on the Memphis and Charleston Railroad and fought in skirmishes at various locations such as Barton Station, Cane Creek, and Dickinson's Station, Alabama.

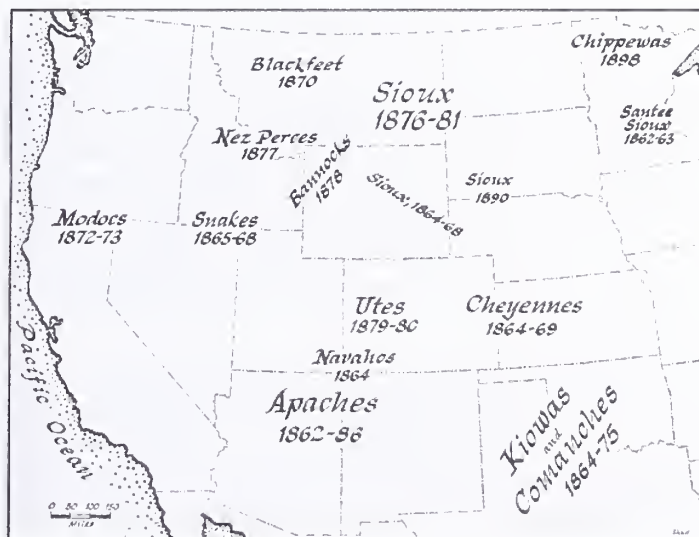
The 3d Cavalry was tasked by General Sherman to perform various reconnaissance missions as part of his advance guard, including marching to the relief of Knoxville, Tennessee. Elements of the Regiment also were engaged at Murphy, North Carolina and Loudon, Tennessee.

From May 1864 until April 1866, the 3d Cavalry was stationed at Little Rock, Arkansas, with the mission of "preventing the organization of enemy commands, capturing guerrilla bands and escorting trains." To accomplish these tasks, the Regiment did much hard riding over a large area. During an expedition from Little Rock to Benton on 21 August 1864, a detachment of the 3d Cavalry was ambushed by Confederate troops. The resulting confusion and effort to escape the kill zone became known as "The Benton Races."

The 3d U.S. Cavalry Regiment's losses during the Civil War were two officers and thirty enlisted men who were either killed in action or died of wounds and three officers and 105 enlisted men who died of disease or other non-combat causes.

Back to the Frontier

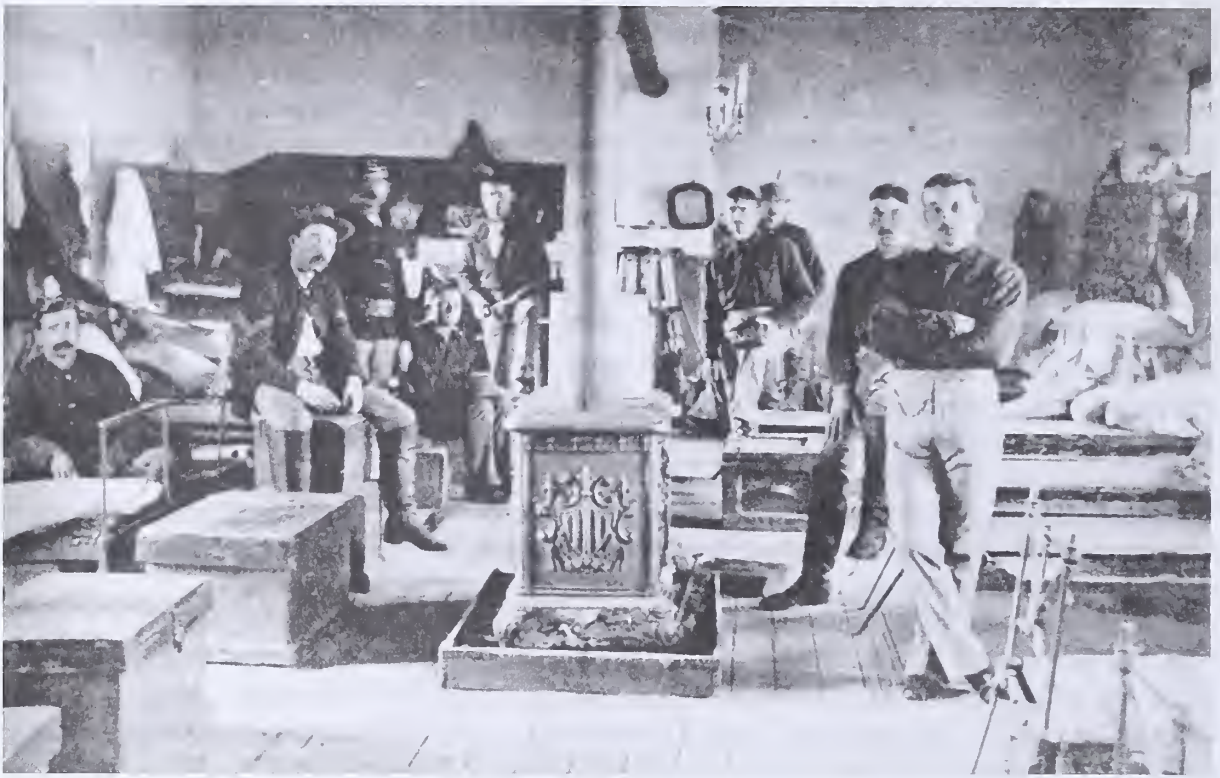
In April 1866, Companies A, D, E, H, L, and M were ordered to Carlisle Barracks, Pennsylvania and brought up to strength. The 3d Cavalry was once again ordered to the New Mexico territory to campaign against the Indians. Company E, traveling on the Arkansas River, suffered thirteen Troopers killed, nine injured, and twelve missing when the boilers exploded on the steamboat *Miami* on 28 January 1866.



Indian Wars 1862-1898

In April 1870, the Regiment was ordered to Arizona for operations against the Apaches and, in late 1871, was transferred north to the Department of the Platte, which included what are now the states of Wyoming, Montana, the Dakotas and Nebraska. The 3d Cavalry became the main cavalry force for Department operations in the Black Hills region.

During the summer of 1876, the Regiment participated in the Little Big Horn Campaign against the Sioux and Cheyenne. On 17 June 1876, ten companies of the 3d Cavalry fought in the Battle of Rosebud Creek.



Barrack room of K Troop, 3d Cavalry at Fort Elliott, Texas, 1885. Sergeant Perley S. Eaton is seated at left on the footlocker and Private John Hubbard stands at right with arms folded.

This was the largest battle between the Army and the Indians in the history of the American West, with 1,400 friendly Indians and soldiers opposing more than 1,500 hostile Indians.

The record of the battle shows that "three battalions of the 3d Cavalry under Captains Mills, Henry and Van Vliet, performed gallant, heroic, and outstanding service." Henry was shot in the face, losing an eye, but survived to become our 12th Colonel. Four 3d Cavalry Troopers received the Medal of Honor for bravery in this battle: Trumpeter Elmer A. Snow of Company M and First Sergeants Joseph Robinson of Company D, Michael A. McGann of Company F, and John H. Shingle of Company I.

With the Apache uprising in the spring of 1882, the Regiment was ordered to return to Arizona, and on July 17th, the 3d and 6th Cavalry Regiments defeated renegade Apaches in the Battle of Big Dry Wash. This battle quelled the last Apache uprising in Arizona and also marked the end of the Regiment's participation in the Indian Wars. This action resulted in the award of two more Medals of Honor, to First Sergeant Charles Taylor of Company D and Lieutenant George H. Morgan of Company K.

The year 1883 would see the term "company" changed to "troop" in the mounted service and in 1885 the red and white guidon replaced the 1863 stars and stripes pattern adopted at the beginning of the Civil War.

In 1885, the 3d U.S. Cavalry was ordered back to Texas, where it remained until 1893. Between 1893 and 1897, the Regiment was engaged in garrison, training and ceremonial activities throughout the East and Mid-West. By July 1897, the Regimental Headquarters and four troops were stationed at Fort Ethan Allen, Vermont, while the remainder of the Regiment returned to Jefferson Barracks, Missouri.

Fiddler's Green

The experiences of a typical Indian Wars period Trooper are perhaps best summed up by the poem, *Fiddler's Green*. Although the poem's origin is uncertain, *Fiddler's Green* is described as a broad meadow located halfway down the trail to Hell, dotted with trees and crossed by many streams. Traditionally, this is the place where dead Troopers camp, with their tents, horses, picket lines, campfires and the old army canteen. The souls of the dead Troopers gather there to exchange reminiscences and tell stories.

Fiddler's Green

*Halfway down the trail to hell,
In a shady meadow green,
Are the souls of all dead troopers camped
Near a good old time canteen,
And this resting place is known as Fiddler's Green.*

*Marching past straight through to Hell,
The Infantry are seen,
Accompanied by the Engineers,
Artillery and Marine,
For none but the shades of Cavalrymen
Dismount at Fiddler's Green.*

*Though some go curving down the trail
To seek a warmer scene,
No trooper ever gets to Hell
Ere he's emptied his canteen,
And so rides back to drink again
With friends at Fiddler's Green*

*And so when man and horse go down
Beneath a saber keen,
Or in a roaring charge of fierce melee
You stop a bullet clean,
And the hostiles come to get your scalp,
Just empty your canteen,
And put your pistol to your head
And go to Fiddler's Green.*

The Spanish-American War

In April 1898, the Regiment was assembled at Camp Thomas, Georgia in Chickamauga National Park and assigned to a brigade in a provisional cavalry division.

On 13 May 1898, the Regiment arrived in Tampa, Florida. On 8 June, the Regiment, minus four troops, embarked, dismounted, on the transport Rio Grande for Cuba. These troops were commanded by Major Henry W. Wessels, Jr., while Major Henry Jackson commanded 2nd Squadron (Troops C, E, F, and G) and Captain Charles Morton commanded 3rd Squadron (Troops B, H, I, and K). Troops A, D, L, and M were left in camp in Tampa to care for animals and Regimental property, and to instruct recruits. The Regiment landed at Daiquiri, Cuba.

One of the Army's objectives was to seize the Cuban positions on the high ground around the landward side of the city of Santiago, a Cuban seaport. This would force the Spanish warships in the harbor to sail out to face the U.S. Navy. The cavalry division, of which the Regiment was a part, was one of three divisions assigned the mission of assaulting these hills, known as the San Juan Heights. The 3d Cavalry was one of five regular U.S. Cavalry Regiments engaged there.

Three troops of 3rd Squadron crossed over Kettle Hill and on to the Spanish positions around what was known as the San Juan House. Troop B advanced to the enemy's line at the San Juan Blockhouse (different from the San Juan House) where the Regiment's U.S. Flag, carried by Sergeant Bartholomew Mulhern of Troop E, was the first to be raised at the point of victory. 2nd Squadron, held in reserve on Kettle Hill, joined the 3rd Squadron on San Juan Hill that evening. The Regiment stayed in Cuba until 6 August when Troops B, G, H, and I sailed for Montauk Point, New York. On the 7th, Troops C, E, F, and K followed.

The 3d Cavalry's casualties were three Troopers killed, six officers and forty-six Troopers wounded. 1LT John W. Heard, Regimental Quartermaster, was awarded a Medal of Honor for most distinguished gallantry in action and Certificates of Merit were awarded to five Troopers. These certificates were the forerunner of the Silver Star Medal.

*Headquarters 1st Cavalry Brigade,
Camp Hamilton, Cuba, July 29, 1898. -*

*The Adjutant General, U. S. A.,
Washington, D. C.,*

Sir:—

I have the honor to recommend that a certificate of merit be granted to Sergeant Bartholomew Mulhern, Troop E, 3rd Cavalry, Color Bearer for the Regiment, for distinguished gallantry in action in the battle before Santiago de Cuba, July 1, 1898.

Sergeant Mulhern kept with the firing-line of the regiment, bearing the colors most conspicuously, and drawing heavy fire of the enemy, and was first to plant the American colors on the first hill, on which is located the San Juan house.

*Very respectfully,
Robert L. Howze,
Asst. Adjutant General, U. S. V.*

The Regiment was joined at Montauk Point by the four troops which had remained behind. In early September the entire Regiment left Montauk Point for its new duty station at Fort Ethan Allen, Vermont.

The 3d Cavalry did not remain together for very long. In February and March of 1899, two troops were assigned to Fort Sheridan, Illinois, two troops to Jefferson barracks, four troops and the band to Fort Myer, Virginia, while the remainder of the Regiment stayed at Fort Ethan Allen.

Old Bill

In 1898, The American artist Frederick Remington was visiting the camp of the 3d U.S. Cavalry in Tampa, Florida, where the Regiment was preparing for the invasion of Cuba during the Spanish-American War.

Remington was a close friend of Captain Francis Hardie, who was the commander of Troop G. During his visit, Remington's attention was drawn to one of the troop's NCOs. Sergeant John Lannen struck the artist as the epitome of the cavalryman, and with Hardie's approval, he made several rough sketches of Lannen in front of Hardie's tent. From those rough sketches Remington later executed the now famous drawing portraying a trooper astride his mount with a carbine cradled in his arm, depicted below.

At some point in the past this drawing became known as "Old Bill," and today it is universally recognized as the symbol of mobile warfare in the United States Army. This drawing represents a Trooper, a unit, and a branch of service.

As was the case with many American Soldiers in that conflict, Lannen contracted yellow fever and died in Santiago in 1898 after almost 30 years of faithful service. The 3d Armored Cavalry Regiment points with pride to the fact that one of its Troopers has bequeathed such a rich legacy to his regiment, the United States Cavalry, and the United States Army.



"Old Bill"

The Philippine Insurrection

When the United States defeated Spain in the Spanish-American War, 400 years of Spanish rule in Cuba, Puerto Rico, Guam, and the Philippine Islands came to an end. The United States, as a new world power, saw the Philippines as the perfect location for a naval facility to support a new Pacific fleet. 3d Cavalry units had barely arrived at their new duty stations in the U.S. when, on 22 July 1899, the headquarters and Troops A, C, D, E, F, K, L, and M were ordered to Seattle, Washington. From Seattle, this force embarked for the Philippine Islands to operate against the insurgents who were trying to prevent the United States from taking control. Meanwhile, Troops B, G, H, and I were ordered to assemble at Fort Myer.

The deploying troops landed in Manila in October 1899, with the remaining four troops following from Fort Myer in 1900. The 3d Cavalry remained on the island of Luzon until 1902, fighting sixty-two engagements during that time. The fighting was often fierce with no quarter asked and none given. This would be the first time the U.S. Army would fight in a jungle environment, and the first time it would fight a counter-insurgency, but it would not be the last.

The Regiment returned to the United States in detachments between April and November 1902. The headquarters, band, and Troops A, D, I, K, L, and M were stationed in Montana, Troops B and C in Wyoming, Troops G and H in Arizona, Troop E in Idaho and Troop F in North Dakota.



3d Cavalry Troopers drill on Luzon during the Philippine Insurrection, ca. 1900.

The 3d Cavalry Regiment remained in the United States until December 1905, when it was again ordered to the Philippines for peacetime occupation duty. It remained there until 1908, when it was ordered home and stationed in Texas. The following nine years were spent in garrison and patrolling the Mexican border.

World War I

On 17 March 1917 the entire Regiment was transferred to Fort Sam Houston, Texas. In April, the United States entered the Great War, and in August the Regiment became of the first units deployed overseas. Arriving in France in November, the Regiment operated three major remount depots until the war's end.

The three squadrons were charged with the purchase of horses, mules and forage, the care, conditioning, and training of remounts before issue, and the distribution and issue of remounts to the American Expeditionary Force. After the armistice, the Regiment was tasked with helping to sell the remaining animals to French civilians. The sale of 345,580 animals recovered over \$52,000,000 for the Army. When they had finished in June 1919, they assembled in Brest, France and sailed home, arriving on July 4.

The only unit of the 3d Cavalry that saw actual combat was Troop K. This troop was part of the III Army Corps and served on the Vesle Front, August 7 to 17, and participated in Oise-Aisne operation, August 18 to September 9, and the Meuse-Argonne Operation from September 14 to November 11, 1918.

Troop K also served as part of the Army of Occupation. The occupation forces' first order of business was to continue training and to be prepared to implement a contingency plan in case Germany refused to sign the armistice or hostilities were resumed. Troop K participated in the March to the Rhine and served in the American Sector of the Army of Occupation from 15 November 1918 to 1 July 1919, when it prepared to sail home.



Troop H, 3d Cavalry, taken in France on 15 November 1918, after the end of the World War I.

Between the World Wars

The Regiment sailed home to Boston in 1919 and the Headquarters and 1st Squadron moved to Fort Ethan Allen, Vermont. The 3rd Squadron was stationed at Fort Myer, Virginia. During the decades after World War I, the Regiment underwent a series of organizational changes. 2nd Squadron plus Troops C and D were inactivated. 3rd Squadron was redesignated as the 2nd Squadron.

Because of its proximity to Washington and Arlington National Cemetery, 2nd Squadron was frequently called upon to furnish honor guards and escorts for distinguished visitors and funeral escorts for distinguished civilian officials and military personnel. It became known as the "President's Own" because of these duties. On 11 November 1921, the 3d Cavalry furnished the cavalry escort for the interment of the Unknown Soldier from World War I in Arlington National Cemetery. Staff Sergeant Frank Witchey, Regimental Bugler, sounded taps at the ceremony. SSG Witchey's bugle and tabard are displayed in the Regimental Museum. Until 1941, the Regiment provided the Honor Guard detail at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

During this period, the Regiment became well known throughout the east for the magnificent horse shows and other riding events it either participated in or sponsored. The 3d Cavalry won many ribbons and trophies at these events, while the trick riding team became famous for its outstanding displays of horsemanship.

This period in the Regiment's history also saw the beginnings of mechanization in the Cavalry. Early armored cars and motor transport trucks began to appear at Forts Ethan Allen and Myer. The Troopers had to develop the first tactics for their employment while also learning to maintain them.



21 February 1942—the end of an era. The 3d Cavalry gives up its horses. Headquartered at Fort Myer for over twenty years, the Regiment takes its mounts to a train before leaving for Georgia to begin training up for World War II.

World War II

With the attack on Pearl Harbor in December of 1941, the United States was thrust into World War II. In February, the Regiment was moved to Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia and then to Fort Benning, Georgia. At Fort Benning, the Regiment was reorganized and redesignated as the 3d Armored Regiment and assigned to the 10th Armored division.

In January 1943, it was reconstituted as the 3d Cavalry Group (Mechanized). The 1st and 2nd Squadrons were redesignated as the 3rd and 43rd Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadrons, respectively. The 3d Cavalry Group moved to Camp Gordon, Georgia and began training in mechanized operations.

After extensive field maneuvers in the southeastern United States, the 3d Cavalry Group arrived in England in June of 1944. On 9 August, it landed in France and became the covering force for XX Corps, part of General Patton's Third U.S. Army. As the spearhead of the XX Corps, the Group led the Third Army's breakout from Normandy.

The Troopers of the 3d Cavalry Group were the first to reach the Meuse River. They were also first to reach the Moselle River and enter the key city of Thionville, France. On 3 November 1944, the Group received attachments of the 135th Engineer Combat Battalion, a field artillery battalion, a heavy field artillery battalion, and 2 tank destroyer battalions. As a result of these attachments, the Group became known as Task Force Polk, named for the Group Commander, Colonel James H. Polk. Other units, including the 2nd Ranger Battalion, were attached and detached, but at one point the Task Force numbered over 5000 Soldiers even though the 3d Cavalry Group originally comprised only about 1200 men.



Troopers of the 3d Cavalry Group (Mechanized) conduct a dismounted patrol during basic training at Camp Gordon, Georgia. The training lasted from November 1943 to March 1944.

On 17 November 1944, Task Force Polk crossed the Moselle River into Germany. Shortly afterward, elements of the 3d Cavalry Group were pressed into service as infantrymen in operations to reduce the fortress city of Metz.

Next came the envelopment of the Siegfried Line and the pursuit to the Rhine River. The 3d Cavalry crossed the Rhine on 29 March and made a 150 mile, three-day dash to the Bad Hersfeld area north of Fulda as resistance started to crumble. In April and early May, with final victory in sight, the Third Army, with the 3d Cavalry Group in the lead, turned south and raced through upper Austria to link up with the Soviet Army. After hostilities ended, the Group was sent through the Alps to Northern Italy to monitor the activities of the various factions that controlled Yugoslavia when the war ended. When no threat materialized, they moved back to Austria. The 3d Cavalry Group (Mecz) was the first military unit to cross the Alps since Hannibal's army did it in 215 B.C.

While in action, the 3d Cavalry Group (Mecz) ultimately moved 3,000 miles in 265 days, 117 of those in continuous combat without a rest! The 3d Cavalry also accounted for over 43,000 enemy troops killed, wounded or captured.

Shortly after the war in Europe ended, the Troopers of the 3rd and 43rd Squadrons returned to the U.S. for a short furlough. The 3rd Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron then reported to Fort Bragg, North Carolina and the 43rd Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron reported to Camp Bowie, Texas to begin training for the invasion of Japan. With the use of the atomic bombs against Japan, however, their services were no longer required.

Colonel Polk and the Group Headquarters Troop stayed in Germany to operate a displaced persons camp for war refugees. Most of these people were either fleeing the Russian Army or had been released from concentration camps. After the camp was turned over to another organization, these Troopers also returned home.

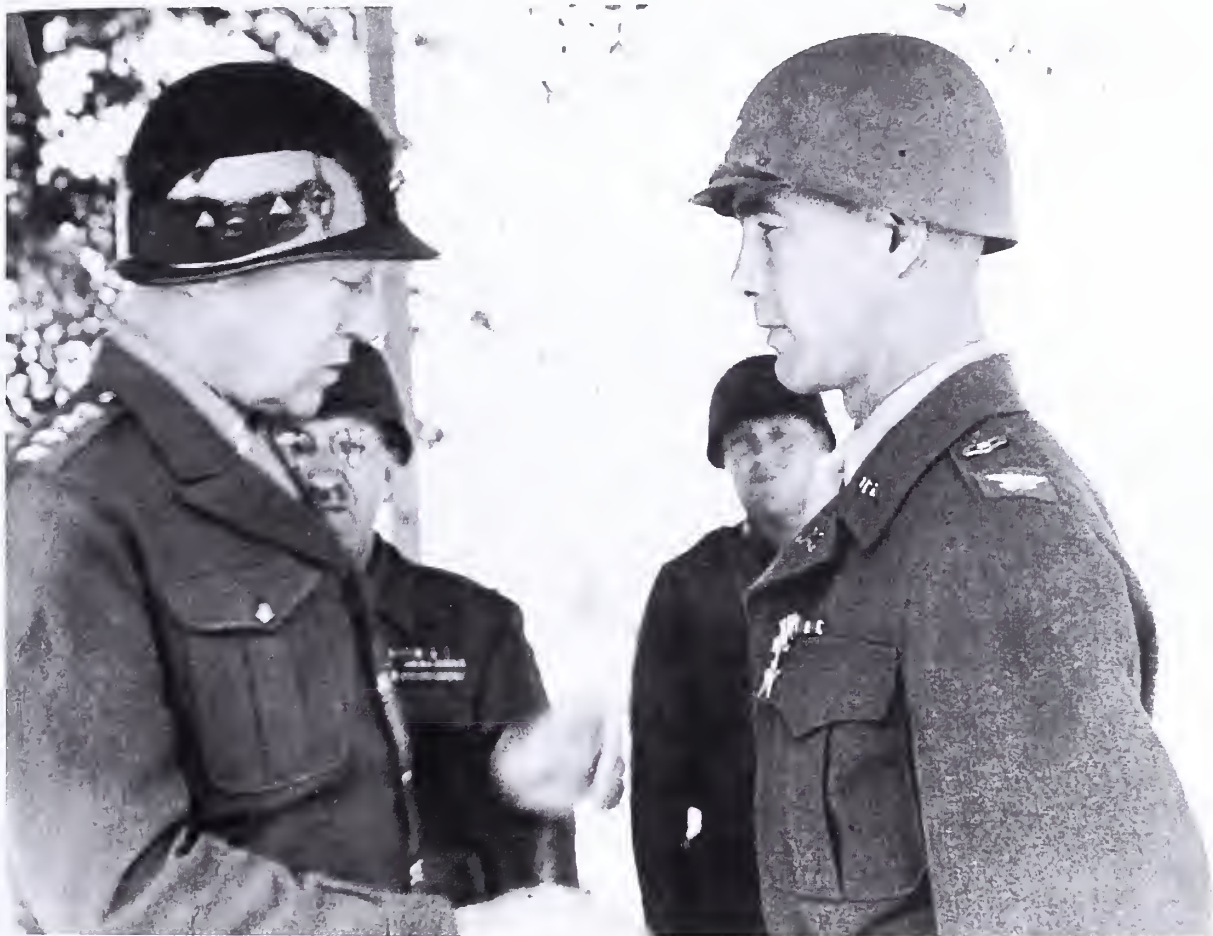


"Task Force Polk Patrols the Saar" by Don Stivers

Patton's Praise

At the war's end, the 3d Cavalry Group, like the Regiment of Mounted Riflemen in Mexico City nearly one hundred years earlier, received high praise from the Commanding General. General George S. Patton, Jr. commented on the battlefield actions of the 3d Cavalry Group with these words:

"The 3d Cavalry has lived up to the accolade bestowed upon it at Chapultepec by General Scott. As horse cavalry you were outstanding; I have never seen a better regiment. To your performance as mechanized cavalry, the same applies. It is a distinct honor to have commanded an army in which the 3d Cavalry served."



General George S. Patton, 28th Colonel, awards the Silver Star Medal to Colonel James H. Polk, 32nd Colonel, on May 18, 1945 at Seewalchen, Austria. The occasion was the 99th anniversary of the 3d Cavalry. Polk would eventually become the Commander in Chief of 7th Army and USAREUR. He retired in 1971 after more than 40 years of service. After retiring, he said "The 3d Cavalry made me a general."

The 3d Armored Cavalry Regiment

Returning from Europe, elements of the 3d Cavalry Group were eventually assembled at Fort Meade, Maryland. In order to return the Regiment to a three-squadron configuration, the 35th Mechanized Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron, an all-Black unit, was reassigned to the Regiment on January 15, 1948. Its incorporation into the 3d ACR marked the first time that African American Troopers were assigned to the Regiment.

On 5 November 1948, the 3d Cavalry Group (Mechanized) was redesignated as the 3d Armored Cavalry Regiment. The 43d Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron became the 1st Battalion, the 3rd Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron became the 2nd Battalion, and the 35th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron became the 3rd Battalion.

During the period of 1948-1951, the Regiment participated in many major field training exercises in the eastern United States. It also conducted training during the summer months for Reserve Component armor units at Fort Meade and Camp Pickett and A.P. Hill, Virginia.

The outbreak of the Korean War meant that the Regiment would have to train replacements for that conflict, despite losing many of its officers and Troopers to units going to Korea.

In February 1952, the Regiment moved from Fort Meade to Camp Pickett where it remained until May 1954. After participating in Exercise Flashburn at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, the Regiment moved back to Fort Meade.



T-41 Walker "Bulldog" tanks being tested by 2nd Squadron, 3d Armored Cavalry Regiment during Operation Snowfall, a joint Army-Air Force exercise at Camp Drum, New York, 10 February 1952.

The Regiment began an intense ten week train-up at Camp A.P. Hill on 1 April 1955 which was interrupted when the Troopers were required to fight a devastating fire in Bowling Green, Virginia. The climax of the training was a firepower demonstration on 24 June followed by the return to Fort Meade from 27 to 29 June.

Operation Gyroscope

In August 1955, the Regiment became the first unit to deploy to Germany under Operation Gyroscope — a plan under which divisional and separate regimental-sized units were sent overseas as replacements for similar units which would return to the United States. The term Operation Gyroscope refers to the attribute of rotation with stability exhibited by a gyroscope. This was an attempt by the Army to reduce personnel turbulence by transferring entire units rather than individual Soldiers.

The advance party arrived in Germany on 26 June. On 2 August the 1st and 2nd Battalions sailed from New York aboard the *U.S.N.S. Randall* and arrived at Bremerhaven on 10 August. The 3rd and Provisional Battalions sailed from New York on *U.S.N.S. Buckner* on 6 August and arrived at Bremerhaven on 14 August.

Replacing the 2d Armored Cavalry Regiment, the Regimental Headquarters was stationed at Merrell Barracks, Nuremberg with the 1st Battalion at Christensen Barracks, Bindlach, the 2nd Battalion at Warner Barracks, Bamberg, and the 3d Battalion at Pond Barracks, Amberg. The exchange with the 2d ACR was completed by 15 August.



C Troop prepares to move out on a training exercise in West Germany during the Operation Gyroscope period, ca. 1957.

The 3d ACR participated in numerous field maneuvers such as NATO exercise Cordon Bleu and Command Post Exercise Polo Ball. In addition, the various units in the Regiment patrolled both the Czechoslovakian and East German borders, frequently working with the West German Federal Border Police, the Bundesgrenzschutz (BGS).

The 3d ACR returned to the United States in February 1958 and was once again stationed at Fort Meade. The Regiment became part of the Strategic Army Corps (STRAC) and, from 1958 to 1961, it was the recipient of four STRAC streamers, awarded for superior readiness and training.

In May 1960 the Army changed the unit designation “battalion” back to the old cavalry designation of “squadron”. From the end of World War II until 1967 separate brigades and regiments were not authorized their own shoulder sleeve insignia, but on 12 June 1967, 3d ACR Troopers were finally authorized to wear the “Bug” patch on their left shoulders. Prior to this change, the patch was worn on the left breast pocket because the patch of the next higher headquarters was worn on the shoulder.

Because so many East Germans had been fleeing into West Berlin, Soviet forces in East Germany abruptly erected a wall between East and West Berlin in 1961, prohibiting movement between the two halves of the city except through controlled check points. The Soviets also began erecting a stronger barrier system all along the East-West German Inter-Zonal Border. These unannounced activities during the middle of the Cold War startled the NATO alliance and created a heightened sense fear that the Soviet Union was preparing for war.

As a result of the Soviet’s actions, the 3d ACR was alerted for movement back to Germany. At the time, the Regiment was involved in field training exercises on two different installations. The units were able to move back to home station, pack and ship vehicles, and equipment, sail to Germany, and be ready for operations in 30 days.

Seventh Army

The 3d ACR was initially placed under the Seventh Army Support Command and given the mission of rear area security. From 1961 to 1968, the Regiment was situated with its Headquarters and Headquarters Troop and the 1st Squadron at H.D. Smith Barracks, Baumholder, the Aviation company at Hoppstadten and the 2nd and 3rd Squadrons at Kapaun Barracks, Kaiserslautern. The Troopers of the Regiment spent many hours reconnoitering the road network in the Seventh Army’s area to determine the best routes for rapid deployment in case of attack by Warsaw Pact Forces.



PFC Bob Allsop of L Troop at Kapaun Barracks in Kaiserslautern, Germany, ca. 1963. Note the “Bug” patch worn on his pocket. (Photo courtesy James A. Riebe)

During 1962 and 1963, the 1st and 2nd Squadrons relieved elements of the 14th ACR for two one-month periods along the East German border. From November 1962 through November 1964, the 3d ACR had a troop attached to the 14th ACR for border surveillance operations on a monthly rotational basis. In February 1964, the Regiment came under the direct control of the Seventh Army. On 10 June 1964, the 2nd Squadron was redesignated as the 1st Squadron, 11th ACR, and returned to the United States with that regiment.

Concurrently, 1st Squadron, 11th ACR was redesignated as 2nd Squadron, 3d ACR and attached to VII Corps with its duty station at Straubling, Germany. The 2nd Squadron continued the mission of the 3d ACR along the Czech border, operating two border camps with one troop until relieved of its border mission and relocated to Kaiserslautern in March 1965.

While it was stationed in Europe, the 3d ACR performed varied and outstanding service for the Seventh Army. The entire Regiment participated in a number of major field training exercises (FTX), including Scotch Gambit I and II in 1962, exercise Big Lift in 1963, Brandy Station in 1965 and Silver Talon in 1966. In addition, the squadrons took part as separate units in several other exercises such as Saber Knot in December 1962, a major counter-insurgency exercise in Bavaria in 1964, and Lundy's Lane I and II in 1964 and 1965. In these latter exercises, the squadrons of the 3d ACR acted as aggressor forces to test the capabilities of several British armor units. In December 1966, the Regiment was assigned to V Corps, and in 1967 took part in Exercise Large Play.

Fort Lewis, Washington

With the Vietnam War expanding, the 3d ACR was ordered back to Fort Lewis, Washington for a possible deployment to that country in the early 1970s. By the time the Regiment arrived there in July 1968, the planned deployment was cancelled due to the beginning of the draw-down in Vietnam, and 2nd Squadron was inactivated in 1971.

The Regiment became a major REFORGER unit, capable of rapidly deploying to Germany in the case of an incursion by Warsaw Pact forces. Troopers from the 3d ACR also spent considerable time at the Yakima Firing Center training National Guard cavalry units.



3d ACR personnel train National Guard Cavalrymen at Yakima Firing Center, Washington, ca. 1969 on M48A3 tanks and M113 ACAVs.

Return to Fort Bliss, Texas

In July 1972, after 115 years, the Regiment returned to Fort Bliss, Texas. The 1st and 3rd Squadrons, Headquarters Troop, Air Cavalry Troop, and 513th Maintenance Company were augmented in 1973 with the addition of several new units. These included the 181st Ordnance Detachment (Missile) and the 66th Military Intelligence Detachment.

2nd Squadron was reconstituted using personnel and equipment from the 1st Squadron, 6th Cavalry, which was moved from Fort Meade to Fort Bliss. In 1976 the size of the Regiment was again increased with the addition of the 43rd Combat Engineer Company.

The 3d ACR's readiness was tested in REFORGER 75 when elements of the Regiment were airlifted to the Federal Republic of Germany where they drew prepositioned equipment from depot stocks. After selected officers and Troopers participated in CPX Autumn Sails with members of the British and West German Armies, the 3d ACR took part in FTX Straffe Zügel (Strong Rein) with the German 1st Panzergrenadier Division.

After returning to Fort Bliss, the Regiment participated in a number of major exercises. In late 1973, the Regiment took part in Brave Shield VI, followed by Brave Rifles VII in February 1974, Gobi Express V in September 1974, Brave Rifles IX in January 1975, and JTX Gallant Shield in the spring of 1975. The Regiment also participated in Orbit Phantom, an annual command post exercise, at Fort Hood, Texas involving III Corps units.

In October 1976, L Troop took part in a month-long exchange with A Squadron, 4th Cavalry Regiment of the Royal Australian Armored Corps. The 3d Armored Cavalry was once again represented in Germany when 1st Squadron participated in REFORGER 77. The Regiment was also involved in Exercise Bold Move.



"Old Bill", SSG Kenneth Allen of Troop A, 1st Squadron, 3d Armored Cavalry Regiment, bears the Regimental Colors on "Bug Day," 9 September 1972. Bug Day was the welcoming ceremony for the Regiment at Fort Bliss, Texas.

From April 1978 to May 1979, H Company conducted Operational Test II of the then-new XM1 Abrams Main Battle Tank. The company logged nearly 300,000 miles, used over 320,000 gallons of fuel, fired 8,000 round of 105mm ammunition, and 200,000 rounds of small arms ammunition in round-the-clock operations with the new tank.

The 407th Army Security Agency Company was assigned to the Regiment in 1979 and a year later the 89th and 507th Chemical Detachments were added, providing needed support in the electronic and chemical warfare fields. In the spring of 1980, elements of the 1st Royal Tank Regiment and the 9th/12th Lancers from the British Army of the Rhine (BAOR) traded places with E Troop for a month of desert training.

On 8 April 1981, General of the Army Omar N. Bradley, who had been living at Fort Bliss, passed away and 2nd Squadron was called upon to provide the Salute Battery and Honor Platoons as well as many other personnel to support the ceremonies at Fort Bliss.

In March 1982, the Regiment took part in Exercise Border Star. Another aspect of the Regiment's training and operations was its affiliation programs with various National Guard cavalry units both at Fort Bliss and at the Guard's home stations.

The Regimental Aviation Section became the Regimental Support Aviation Troop (RSAT) on 5 March 1982. RSAT's mission was to provide command-and-control aircraft, liaison, troop lift, and critical logistic re-supply support as well as combat medical evacuation.

On 29 August 1982, the Regiment's advance party departed for Germany for REFORGER 82. This deployment would see the Regiment, less Air Cavalry Troop, deploy for operations which would last until October.

On 16 November 1982, the 407th ASA Company and 66th MI Detachments were combined to form the 66th Military Intelligence Company (CEWI). CEWI (pronounced see-wee) stands for "Combat Electronic Warfare Intelligence."

In 1985, two events occurred that further enhanced the Regiment's capabilities. The first was the activation, on 16 April, of the Support Squadron, the first new squadron to be activated since 1960. The other was that 2nd Squadron became the first unit in the United States Army to field the new M1A1 variant of the Abrams tank. Another major change occurred on 16 October 1988 when the Regimental Support Aviation Troop, with other aviation units, was redesignated as the newest element of the Regiment — the 4th Squadron.



An OH-58 from Air Cavalry Troop during an exercise at Ft. Bliss.

The Persian Gulf War

On 7 August 1990, the Regiment was alerted for movement to defend Saudi Arabia from Iraqi Aggression. In September, the Regiment arrived in country as part of the XVIII Airborne Corps and moved into a defensive position south of the Kuwaiti border. During this defensive buildup, known as "Operation Desert Shield", the Regiment trained extensively in anticipation of the ground assault which would be required to liberate Kuwait.

On 17 January 1991, the United Nations initiated "Operation Desert Storm." In "Operation Desert Caravan" the Regiment moved 2400 vehicles 250 kilometers west to set up in the neutral zone on the Saudi/Iraqi border, as the air war progressed overhead. On 22 January 1991, elements of Troop I, accompanying 63rd Colonel Douglas H. Starr, engaged in the first ground combat by the XVIII Airborne Corps, when they responded to an Iraqi attack on a Saudi border outpost.

On 22 February 1991, G Troop, 2nd Squadron led the Regiment across the berms into Iraq for the start of the ground phase of the war. In 100 hours the Regiment moved over 300 kilometers north, then east to Basra, Iraq, ending the war in the Rumaylah oil fields. The Regiment left the remnants of three Republican Guard Division in its wake.

The 3d ACR returned to Fort Bliss as quickly as it had deployed to the Middle East, arriving home on 5 April 1991.



Fort Carson, Colorado

In early 1996, the Regiment once again answered the call to “Boots and Saddles” and moved to Fort Carson, Colorado. The Mountain Post is named for the famous Colorado frontiersman and military officer, Christopher “Kit” Carson. President James K. Polk appointed Carson a lieutenant in the Mounted Rifles in 1848, in recognition of his service to the nation. However, due to political issues brought about by his support of General Stephen W. Kearney’s conquest of California, his appointment was not confirmed by the Senate. Carson is listed on Regimental returns as “...appointed but not joined.”



Colonel Christopher “Kit” Carson.

Shortly after arriving at Fort Carson, the 3d ACR celebrated its 150th anniversary. In addition, various units of the Regiment established partnerships with several communities in the Pikes Peak region.

3d ACR Troopers continued to hone their war-fighting skills with operations at Ft. Carson and the Pinon Canyon Maneuver Site, east of Trinidad, Colorado. During Rotation 98-1 at the National Training Center (NTC) at Ft. Irwin, CA, the Regiment once again set the standard and demonstrated its lethality by the destruction of the Opposing Force (OPFOR). This deployment was the best recorded to that date by a regimental-size unit.

Elements of the Regiment also operated with other Army units in exercises at the NTC, the Joint Readiness Training Center at Ft. Polk, Louisiana, and other locations.

Bosnia

In August 1998, the Regiment was notified that it would participate in the Bosnian peace-keeping mission as part of Stabilization Force 7 (SFOR 7). This would be a unique deployment because the 3d Armored Cavalry Regiment (less 1st Squadron) would be under the operational control of the Texas National Guard's 49th Armored Division. SFOR 7 was the first time that a National Guard organization would have command authority over active component units as well as a multinational force, known as Task Force Eagle.

The Regiment began preparations for the SFOR mission while at the same time continuing its normal training and garrison duties. Arrangements had to be made to store personal property and vehicles, provide for maintenance of military vehicles and equipment that would remain at Fort Carson, and many other details.



Srebrenik Castle, north of Tuzla, Bosnia.

3d ACR Troopers had to stand down from a more aggressive war fighting posture to act as neutral observers. They trained long and hard at Brcko, a simulated Bosnian village built by Fort Carson to provide a realistic training environment. After taking part in sustained training exercises conducted by other units stationed at Ft. Carson, those members of the Regiment slated for the deployment successfully completed a rigorous exercise at Ft. Polk, Louisiana designed to test their readiness for the SFOR mission.

When the 3d Armored Cavalry Regiment deployed, beginning in February 2000, it represented 75 percent of the American contribution to the Multinational Division North (MND-N) and constituted the bulk of the American maneuver element.

2nd Squadron was located at Camp McGovern, 3rd Squadron at Camp Dobol while 4th and Support Squadrons operated from Comanche Base.

Saber Squadron's area of responsibility was one of the largest in the Balkans and included Brcko and Modrica. The people of these cities made the mission more demanding because they disliked having the SFOR personnel in their area. Despite this, the Saber patrols covered over 500,000 miles, inspected more than thirty weapons storage sites and collected over 300 weapons and pieces of explosive ordnance.

The Troopers of Saber Squadron helped facilitate the elections that began a new era of democracy for the Bosnian state. There were no major incidents or violent demonstrations in their area of responsibility during the six month deployment. Saber Troopers also conducted joint operations with the other countries from the multinational force.

Thunder Squadron occupied Camp Dobol and its area of responsibility on 27 March 2000. Thunder Squadron Troopers provided security for more than 3000 Bosniak widows and mourners who returned to the Serb-dominated town of Potacari. This town is thought to be the scene of the massacre of over ten thousand Bosniaks by the Bosnian Serb Army in 1995. Despite various attempts to prevent their return, the "Women of Srebrenica" returned safely to mourn and pray at Potacari.

For the first time, a U.S. Army artillery unit conducted patrols as part of the peacekeeping operations for MND-N when the Troopers of Regulator Battery assumed peacekeeping responsibility for Banovici and Zivinici. Other activities included weapons storage site inspections, removal of roadblocks, and confiscation of illegally cached weapons. Thunder Squadron also conducted joint patrols with Turkish, Russian, Estonian, Polish, Swedish, and Danish troops.

Long Knife Squadron was paired with the 49th Aviation Brigade of the Texas National Guard to form the joint Aviation Brigade for the SFOR 7 rotation. After intensive training, the squadron's aircraft were flown to Corpus Christi, Texas and loaded onto a ship for transport to the port of Rijeka, Croatia.

Long Knife aviators supported reconnaissance, security, and air movement missions with both American and international units flying missions not only for MND-N, but also for Multi-National Divisions Southwest and Southeast. The aircrews of 4th Squadron flew almost 5,000 sorties for over 2,000 missions, logging more than 12,000 hours.

While the line squadrons were conducting their operations, the Muleskinners of Support Squadron were busy setting up base shop operations at Camp Comanche. In addition, support teams were co-located with Saber Squadron at Camp McGovern and Thunder Squadron at Camp Dobol, as well as at Camp Eagle to support Division Troops.

Over the next seven months Support Squadron provided uninterrupted direct support ground maintenance, aviation intermediate maintenance, supply, medical, and materiel management support to the Regiment as well as the various active duty and reserve units that comprised Task Force Eagle. The Muleskinners also provided support to, and conducted logistics training with, many of the multi-national elements of Multi-national Division (North).

While the SFOR units were involved in the peacekeeping operations in Bosnia, Task Force Rifles (TFR) was activated back at Fort Carson. Composed of Tiger Squadron and all Regimental units remaining at Fort Carson, TFR was tasked with post red cycle duties as well as maintaining the many vehicles that were not taken to Bosnia.

Additionally, TFR conducted level II gunnery, externally-evaluated lane training, and Pinon Strike 2000 at Pinyon Canyon Maneuver Area. TFR also assumed the role of Opposing Force for other units preparing for NTC deployments. The Troopers of 571st Medical Company, after standing down from their MAST mission at Fort Bliss, deployed to Kuwait to assume the medevac mission for Operation Desert Spring.

Members of TFR also were tasked to perform the Wild Land Fire Fighting mission, by preparing to deploy to any fires east of the Mississippi River. Tiger Squadron conducted a Level I gunnery and a Combined Arms Live Fire Exercise before preparing to receive Regimental units returning from Bosnia.

TFR also represented the Regiment at Fort Hood during CPX Ulchi Focus Lens. This exercise simulated the deployment of the Regiment to Korea. Before the Troopers of Task Force Eagle could return to Fort Carson, they had to train their replacements to assume the peacekeeping mission. Once this was accomplished, the various units began returning to Fort Carson and the last unit closed on 7 October 2000.



21 March 2000. Sapper Company Troopers work with Danish Army engineers to de-launch a military bridge that temporarily replaced a bridge destroyed in the fighting. When a new highway bridge was built, it was removed.

Exercise Bright Star 01/02

Beginning in September 2001, Tiger Squadron, with elements of the Regimental Headquarters, Longknife and Muleskinner Squadrons, deployed to Egypt to participate in exercise Bright Star 01/02 as part of a Combined Forces Land Component command (CFLCC) coalition. The coalition included elements from the U.S. Marine Corps, Egypt, France, Kuwait, Greece, Italy, and the British Army.

The 3d Troopers took part in field training and live fire exercises while in Egypt. They also conducted training on nuclear, biological, and chemical warfare, night warfare, and the use of smoke on the battlefield. Static displays and briefings on Air Defense Artillery capabilities were also provided. Aviation support was provided for the exercise by Longknife Troopers in the form of medical evacuation and personnel transport, while the Muleskinners of Support Squadron established and operated a logistics support system.

In addition, members of Tiger Squadron and the Regimental Staff were tasked to conduct affiliation training with their Egyptian counterparts to teach them to function as Observer/Controllers (OC) for the forces involved in ground tactical operations, as well as establishing and maintaining communications and command and control between the various multinational OC forces.



A D Company tank maneuvers through the Egyptian desert during Bright Star 01/02.

The terrorist attacks against the U.S. on 11 September caused the 3d ACR units in Egypt wonder if they would be involved in some form of retaliatory action, but all deployed personnel returned to Fort Carson by 10 November. Valuable experience was gained by all participants, demonstrating that disparate coalition forces could overcome different doctrines and cultures to successfully work together.

Operation Iraqi Freedom I

Because of the terrorist attacks on the U.S. on 11 September 2001, coalition forces invaded Iraq in March 2002. As a result, the Troopers of the 3d Armored Cavalry Regiment readied themselves for deployment in support of the campaign to remove the despotic regime of Saddam Hussein.

Beginning in August 2002, the Regiment began to prepare for operations in the Central Command Area of Responsibility (CENTCOM AOR). The preparations included a National Training Center rotation, Warfighter exercises with both III Corps and V Corps, intensive individual and collective training, weapons qualification, and lane training at Fort Carson.

In addition to the intense training, the Regiment fielded 693 pieces of new equipment, and reactivated its second AH-64A Apache attack helicopter unit, Quicksilver Troop.



XVI RCSM, John R. Caldwell bids farewell to a 3d ACR Trooper as he is about to board the flight to Kuwait at the Colorado Springs Jet Center .

The 3d ACR received a deployment order for movement to the CENTCOM AOR on 14 February 2003. Equipment was prepared and moved by rail from Fort Carson to the port at Beaumont, Texas. The first personnel arrived in Kuwait on 2 April and the remainder of the Regiment arrived in Theater by the middle of the month.

The main body of the Regiment crossed the border into Iraq on 25 April 2003 and was immediately tasked to perform an economy of force mission to secure and stabilize the western part of the country. This area had been by-passed during the advance to Baghdad, and the Regiment had little intelligence on what would be found there. The Troopers found that they had

given responsibility for Al Anbar province, the largest province in Iraq, covering fully one third of the country, or about 140,000 square kilometers. It was the largest assigned area of responsibility and functioning, assigned to the smallest maneuver unit directly subordinate to Combined Joint Task Force-7. This area included the “Sunni Triangle”, the part of Iraq that Saddam Hussein, his family, and the senior leaders of the Ba’ath Party called home. Al Anbar was home to forty-eight primary and fourteen sub-tribes and it shared a 900 kilometer border with Saudi Arabia, Jordan, and Syria.

With the attachment of a number of other units, the 3d Armored Cavalry Regiment became the nucleus of a Regimental Combat Team named Task Force Rifles (see Appendix H for a list of attached units). The Regiment’s strength grew to include five squadrons, four battalions, and eight separate companies totaling more than 8,200 troops.



PV2 Joseph M. King of A Troop provides security for his dismounted team while they sweep the area after an ambush near the headquarters of the Ba’ath Party in Husaybah on 27 October 2003. Photo courtesy of Andy Rogers/Colorado Springs Gazette.

The various elements of Task Force Rifles successfully performed many missions across the entire spectrum of military operations from offensive missions to civil affairs operations. Daily operations included reconnaissance, security patrols, escort duty, static security, and presence patrols. Other types of missions included capturing or killing former regime elements, securing mass grave sites, and restoring law and order by reopening Iraqi police stations, courthouses, and prisons. Tankers, artillerymen and other Troopers whose specialties don’t normally require them to perform these types of missions, found themselves operating like infantry and scouts.

The combat units were asked by the city of Fallujah not to use their tracked vehicles for patrolling in the built-up areas because it would disrupt the community. To increase mobility and decrease damage to infrastructure, they adopted High Mobility Multipurpose Wheeled Vehicles (HMMWV) for many of these operations. The trade-off for the increased mobility was that the patrols became highly vulnerable to terrorist attacks, particularly those employing Improvised Explosive Devices (IED). As a result of these attacks, use of armored vehicles was eventually resumed.

Offensive operations mounted by Task Force Rifles included Rifles Scorpion, Rifles Go West, Rifles Blitz, and Rifles Fury. Task Force Rifles initiated operations by conducting reconnaissance missions in the Euphrates River Crescent to identify targets, remove hostile Ba'ath Party members from power, and eliminate anti-coalition media sources.

The Regimental Combat Team continued operations focusing on finding and destroying regime loyalist camps and weapons caches between Lake Tar Tar and the Euphrates River. This operation resulted in the apprehension of several individuals from the Defense Intelligence Agency's Top 55 Black List of High Value Targets (HVT).



PFC James V. Garza (L) and SPC Ruperto Estrada of 3rd Platoon, G Troop apply C4 plastic explosive to 82 millimeter mortar ammunition stacked for demolition at a collection point northeast of Fallujah during Operation Longstreet.

By the end of August, the Task Force had confiscated 1,080 122mm artillery rounds, 928 mortar rounds, 8,991 23mm rounds, 2,828 AK-47s, two pistols, ten anti-tank missiles, forty-five anti-tank mines, eight surface-to-air missiles, four kegs of gunpowder, 300 130mm high explosive rounds, three boxes of hand grenades, twenty high explosive anti-tank rounds, 125 100mm tank gun rounds, 134 rocket-propelled grenades, two sniper rifles, thirty 37mm anti-aircraft rounds, one improvised explosive device, and one SA-7 surface to air guided missile system.

The Task Force discovered an Iranian Terrorist organization called the Mujahideen e-Khalq (MEK) occupying a compound in Fallujah. The MEK are dedicated to the overthrow of the current Iranian regime and therefore were supported by Saddam Hussein. While it appeared to have taken no action against Coalition forces, on 9 May G Troop executed Operation Saber Ultimatum. This raid forced the surrender of the compound and a weapons cache.

Hand in hand with combat operations, Task Force Rifles spent an enormous amount of time and energy performing civil-military operations (CMO). The first of these was establishing a Government Support Team (GST) in Ar Ramadi. The GST opened its office in the Ar Ramadi Municipal Building in order to establish a relationship with the civic leaders of the capital of Al Anbar.

One of the challenges facing both the GST and local government officials was developing a decentralized approach to operations because of the distance from Baghdad and the fact that the local authorities were used to highly centralized control by the old regime. The Regimental Commander, Colonel David A. Teeples, the GST, and the Regimental Staff all provided guidance so that the local leaders could begin learning to operate independently.



COL David A. Teeples meets with representatives of the Mujahideen e-Khalq on 9 May 2003 before seizing their compound in Fallujah. The organization, a group of Iranians who want to topple the current government of Iran, is considered a terrorist organiza-

In order to help the local officials adapt to the new system, Colonel Teeples established bi-weekly meetings with the most important leaders in Al Anbar. This assistance began to show results after a few months as the new leaders began to govern with increasing independence.

During his first two meetings with the province sheiks, Colonel Teeples communicated coalition goals and his priorities of security, fuel, and employment directly to them. At the second meeting in July, in addition to the sheiks, several mayors were invited to join the proceedings to further strengthen the cooperation between coalition forces and leaders.

In August 2003 when no one from Al Anbar was invited to sit on the new Iraqi Governing Council in Baghdad, the people of Al Anbar were outraged. In order to preserve the progress that had been achieved so far, the Governor, sheiks, and civic and religious leaders from each community were invited to participate in a new Al Anbar Provincial Council.

Following the election of a Council Chairman and Vice Chairman, the Council met at various locations around the province and began work on resolving issues that affected local citizens. This was also the first time that women were allowed to take part in the government process. The Province Council evolved into a functioning civilian government that demonstrated that the democratic process would work for the Iraqi people.



22 May 2003. With Air Defense Battery providing security, Iraqi workers wait at a phosphate plant in Al Qaim for their first pay in months. Tiger Squadron confiscated about 200 million Denar in Iraqi government funds from a local bank to pay government employees. Each man received 25,000 Denar, equivalent to about \$25 U.S. Photo courtesy of Andy Rogers/Colorado Springs Gazette.

Despite being determined to take charge of their own affairs, the lack of resources made any progress extremely difficult. In an effort to re-energize local government agencies and get people back to work, the GST was able to channel over 60 million U.S. dollars to some 40,000 civil servants in Fallujah, Habbaniyah, Ramadi, Hit, Hadithah, Al Qaim, and Ar Rutbah and about 30,000 former soldiers living in the province who had been discharged during the CJTF-7 consolidation prior to Task Force Rifles' arrival in the province.

Task Force Rifles facilitated the hiring of 400 workers for the Ar Ramadi Department of Sanitation, many of whom were hired from the Al Tesh refugee camp. Wherever possible, local people were put to work on these projects so that by the end of September over 30 million dollars had been disbursed by the Task Force.



SGT Carl D. Harding, CSM Gilberto Muniz, and CPT Mary Thompson, of HHT, Support Squadron, distribute school supplies at a boy's school in Iraq. Over 300 schools in Task Force Rifles' area of responsibility were renovated and reopened.

Various units of the Task Force found themselves managing a large number of projects to rebuild the infrastructure and restore basic services, efforts aimed at winning the hearts and minds of the Iraqi people. Many schools in Iraq were found to have been turned into munitions storage facilities, because the regime knew Coalition Forces would not attack schools. These schools were cleared, renovated and returned to use.

The United Nations World Food Program facility, operating from Ar Ramadi, was initially secured by elements of the Task Force. This facility received and distributed over 1,400 truck loads of food to the local citizens. Task Force Rifles also distributed over 49,000 Humanitarian Daily Rations (HDR) to various hospitals, clinics, and other facilities in the area.

Hospitals were also renovated. Unlike those facilities used by the members of the old regime, health care facilities used by the common people were found to be far below normal

standards. The Task Force brought medical care to people who had never seen a health care professional in their lives. Medical supplies and equipment were provided to the Iraqi facilities along with food and other basic items. Specialized healthcare was provided by a clinic established and staffed by female Task Force personnel especially to provide treatment to Iraqi women.

Task Force Rifles established the first Highway Patrol in Iraq and hired over 1500 police officers and other security personnel. Providing employment to idle citizens not only gave them an income, but put more responsibility for their security into their own hands.



SPC David S. Selby leads members of L Troop's 1st Platoon as they execute a raid in Rawah, Iraq.

Another security mission performed by Task Force Rifles was control of the border crossing points of Husayba and Tenaf (Syria), and Trebil (Jordan). In addition, a crossing control point was established at Ar Ar (Saudi Arabia) where only an open border has existed before. There was an urgent need to gain control of these border crossing points to prevent more support for the terrorists from entering Iraq.

The Task Force, in conjunction with the Al Anbar governor, stood up a force of several hundred border guards who were paid by the Al Anbar government rather than by coalition forces. An additional requirement was to have the crossing point at Ar Ar opened and manned in time for the Haj pilgrimage to the holy cities of Saudi Arabia. Approximately 31,000 Iraqis took advantage of the opportunity to take part in the Haj.

Another Task Force project to increase security was the establishment of the Iraqi Civil Defense Corps (ICDC) training facility north of the city of Hit. More than 3000 troops were trained and then assigned to two ICDC battalions.

Longknife Squadron established aerial border qualification standards and became the first aviation unit in theater to operate well inside the five kilometer buffer zone established by U.S.

Central Command. The success of the program resulted in its adoption by CJTF-7 as the theater standard.

Over twenty forward Operating Bases (FOB) were established in order to provide the best possible living conditions for Task Force personnel, and from which combat, security, and support operations could be conducted throughout a 140,000 square kilometer area. The various FOBs established by the Task Force became nodes in a massive logistical network. The various support organizations in the Task Force operated more than 800 convoys, driving over 3.8 million miles to keep Task Force units supplied with everything needed to continue operations.

These support units, used to operating in relative security, found that they had become prime targets after terrorists discovered that the vehicles with little or no armor were easy targets and focused their attention on them. The support units learned to deal with the threat and continued to march, playing a vital role in securing peace and stability in Al Anbar Province.



SPC Jason Coffman (L) and SPC Erik Newlander service the rotor system of an OH-58D Kiowa Warrior from O Troop, 4th Squadron, 3d Armored Cavalry Regiment at Habbaniyah, Iraq, 10 May 2003. 4th Squadron provided continuous support to the various ground elements of Task Force Rifles. U.S. Photo courtesy of Andy Rogers/Colorado Springs Gazette.

Near the beginning of January, heavy equipment and vehicles had begun moving south to Kuwait to be prepared for the voyage home. 3d ACR Troopers began flying back to the U.S. on 23 March while vehicles were loaded as the ships became available.

Initial contact was made with the 7th Regimental Combat Team of the U.S. Marine Corps on 18 January when representatives of that unit arrived at Rifles Base for briefings in order to begin the planning necessary to accomplish the Marines' relief of Task Force Rifles. The Marines began arriving in numbers by the middle of February and beginning on 4 March, joint missions were conducted with Marine units.

Task Force Rifles continued to conduct combat operations until 14 March 2004 when authority for the Al Anbar Province Area of Operations was officially transferred to the U.S. Marine Corps. The Regimental Combat Team's last flight from Al Asad departed on 18 March and the last flight from Kuwait departed on 31 March 2004.

For its service in Operation Iraqi Freedom I, the 3d Armored Cavalry Regiment received the Distinguished Unit Citation. The award certificate is reproduced in Appendix D. Despite the Regiment's successes with the many and varied missions it performed in Iraq, it should be remembered that the Regiment and its attachments were still operating in a combat environment. At any given time in the Regimental Combat Team's are of responsibility, some members of the Regiment were under fire. Approximately 400 citations for valor were awarded, but thirty-three 3d Armored Cavalry officers and Troopers died during Operation Iraqi Freedom I. Eighteen Troopers attached to the Task Force also died. 233 Task Force Rifles Troopers were wounded. The names of the Troopers who died may be found at Appendix I.



The memorial service at Forward Operating Base Tiger for SGT Michael E. Dooley of B Troop. SGT Dooley was killed in action at Al Qaim, Iraq on 8 June 2003. Photo courtesy Patrick Andrade/ Newsweek.

Operation Iraqi Freedom 04-06

The Brave Rifles team had barely settled back into the routine at Fort Carson when, in July 2004, another deployment order alerted the Regiment that it would return to Iraq. This gave the members of the Regiment only about ten months back home with their families and to ready equipment and train up before returning to the CENTCOM Theater of Operations. In August over 400 members of the Regiment reenlisted together in a mass ceremony.

In a flurry of activity, the Fort Carson Directorate of Logistics, in conjunction with contractor personnel, “up-armored” the Regiment’s tactical wheeled vehicle fleet before it was shipped back to Iraq. This represented a major improvement in protection for personnel who had previously been required to operate thin-skinned vehicles under the threat of enemy attack.

In March, the Regiment once again deployed to Kuwait and began moving into Iraq at the beginning of April, 2005. The 3d ACR deployed to South Baghdad, conducting operations in northern Babil Province for almost two months. Saddam Hussein used the fertile farmlands and luxurious riverside mansions of the area as rewards for top party officials, military officers, secret police, and intelligence agents. After the fall of the regime, the area became one of the most troubled regions in Iraq and a staging area for terrorist operations against Baghdad.



SSG Nathan Rico of L Troop maneuvers his Bradley Fighting Vehicle through the countryside of Babil Province, south of Baghdad, during a zone reconnaissance mission on 7 April 2005. Photo courtesy Todd Heisler/Rocky Mountain News.

Upon arrival in Babil Province, the Regiment conducted reconnaissance and offensive operations to defeat the enemy insurgent network and deny the enemy the ability to disrupt political and economic development in Baghdad, a city of 6 million people.

1st Squadron, 3rd Squadron, and 2nd Battalion, 70th Armor (which was attached to the Regiment), conducted operations with the Iraqi Army's Intervention Force. During Operations Tiger Walk, Bolt Down, and Brush Back, the Regiment captured entire insurgent cells and uncovered stockpiles of munitions. 4th Squadron's helicopters allowed the Regiment to gain and maintain contact with an elusive enemy. The combined air-ground effort denied the enemy freedom of movement and allowed the Regiment to kill or capture eight triggermen responsible for IEDs. As a result, attacks along the main supply route (Route Tampa) fell dramatically and the Regiment was able to protect critical areas such as Baghdad International Airport.



SPC Brantwan Smith and members of A Troop provides overwatch for Iraqi Intervention Force soldiers during Operation Tigerwalk in Babil Province 20 April 2005. Materials for making improvised explosive devices were found in the house being searched. Photo courtesy Craig F. Walker/Denver Post.

As the Regiment began conduction counterinsurgency operations in the area south of Baghdad, 2nd Squadron responded immediately to new orders to begin movement to Western Ninewa Province. Support Squadron sustained fast-paced operations from an immature base while simultaneously supporting 2nd Squadron's movement to what would become the new Regimental area of operations.

In mid-May, after severely disrupting the enemy networks between the Tigris and Euphrates River Valleys south of Baghdad, the Regiment, minus 3rd Squadron, undertook a new mission to defeat a highly organized terrorist network in northwest Iraq, centered on the ancient city of Tall Afar.



An Iraqi woman hurries away from her house as 1st Squadron Troopers and Iraqi Intervention Force soldiers search it during Operation Tigerwalk in Babil Province, south of Baghdad, 20 April 2005. Photo courtesy Craig F. Walker/ The Denver Post.

3rd Squadron, initially reinforced with the Regiment's Air Defense Battery, an engineer platoon from the 43rd Engineer Company, an attack helicopter troop (R Troop) , 3rd Platoon, D Company and Iraqi Army advisors from 1st Squadron, remained in the area south of Baghdad, attached to the 3rd Infantry Division to give that unit the combat power that it needed to defeat a deeply rooted terrorist network and protect Baghdad from the devastating terror attacks originating from this area.

In September of 2004, Iraqi security forces in Tall Afar collapsed, and the town and the region around it became an insurgent training area and staging base. Two months later, terrorists used this area to organize and conduct systematic attacks on Mosul, a city of 2.5 million people. Foreign extremists, combined with local insurgents and criminals under the organization Al Qaeda in Iraq began a reign of terror that choked the life out of Tall Afar, Biaj, and Avgani while victimizing people throughout the region. 2nd Squadron, with a small Regimental Command and Control element, and a forward logistical element from Support Squadron led the Regiment to Tall Afar in mid-April.

The Regiment's area of operations in western Ninewa Province spanned 3,000 square kilometers and included 278 kilometers of the Syrian/Iraqi border (the Rabi'ah Port of Entry was particularly critical as the only legal border crossing in Ninewa Province). The population of the area is approximately 655,000 with about 200,000 people living in Tall Afar. The Regiment partnered with an Iraqi Border Police Brigade of five battalions manning forty-two forts along the Syrian border.

The Regiment rapidly developed close relationships with their Iraqi partners. One Iraqi Army brigade occupied the western area of operations with battalions in Rabi'ah, Biaj, and

Sinjar, while another brigade operated in Tall Afar, and a third brigade operated from the Al Kisik Military Base in the northern area of operations. The Regiment also partnered with the Iraqi Police across the province and worked to increase their capabilities and introduce them into communities with little police presence. Special Forces operational detachments and Military Transition Teams proved invaluable in accelerating the Iraqi Army's development.

The Regiment, reinforced by the 2nd Squadron, 14th Cavalry, immediately challenged the terrorist stronghold of Tall Afar. Throughout the months of May, June, and July, Saber Squadron developed accurate intelligence through effective reconnaissance operations. The squadron's units conducted raids and engaged in several pitched battles with the enemy that lasted several hours — some of the toughest urban combat seen by American units in Iraq.

The enemy countered the advantage provided to the Troopers on the ground by reconnaissance aircraft by developing a highly organized air defense network that relied on timely communications and large volumes of small arms and machinegun fire. Enemy actions against the Regiment's air assets resulted in damage to twelve aircraft in less than two months of intense fighting.

2nd Squadron, reinforced by D Company from 1st Squadron, countered the enemy offensive by building positive relationships with the people that led to accurate intelligence. It was clear that Tall Afar was under the control of Al Qaeda in Iraq. The so-called "Battalion of the One True God" was highly organized into four combat battalions, each numbering between 500 and 1000 fighters. The insurgent stronghold was in the Sarai District — a dense network of ancient, multi-story stone buildings, laced with courtyards cross cut with narrow, winding alley



SSG Justin Vasquez of L Troop questions an Iraqi man who was found with a cell phone in a car parked near the scene of a vehicle-borne improvised explosive device attack on 10 April 2005. Cell phones can be used to trigger IEDs. Sergeant Vasquez was killed in action on 5 June 2005. Photo courtesy of Todd Heisler/Rocky Mountain News.

ways and thus not accessible to armored vehicles. It was clear to the Iraqi Army and Regimental leadership that to wrest control of the city from the insurgents, a large scale, combined offensive with Iraqi Army and police units would be required. The Regiment and the 3rd Iraqi Division began planning the operation in early July. 2nd Squadron set conditions for the operation by improving the local government, beginning the reconstitution of the police, and engaging tribal leaders.



A P Troop OH-58D Kiowa Warrior performs an armed reconnaissance mission over Sinjar, about 60 kilometers west of Tall Afar. 4th Squadron provided continuous support for the ground maneuver elements of the Regiment.

In late May, while 3rd Squadron assumed a brigade-sized mission south of Baghdad and R Troop operated temporarily with the 3rd Infantry Division, the Regimental Headquarters, 1st Squadron, 4th Squadron, and Support Squadron joined 2nd Squadron and initiated combat operations across western Ninewa Province. The Regiment immediately launched Operation Veterans Forward to establish the Iraqi Army, Iraqi Police, and Iraqi Border Police across the vast Syrian border region — a region the enemy was using to access external support from Syria.

2nd Squadron, 14th Cavalry returned, with Iraqi Army units and 4th Squadron, conducted a zone reconnaissance to the north bank of the Euphrates River in the vast Jazeera Desert region of Ninewa and Al Anbar Provinces. The joint operation uncovered weapons caches and killed or captured eight foreign terrorists responsible for the kidnapping and death of the governor of Al Anbar Province.

1st Squadron, reinforced with the 43rd Engineer Company and Air Defense Battery, established itself in the west, operating from bases that spanned over 100 kilometers from the border town of Rabi'ah to the cities of Sinjar and south to Biaj. By the end of May, 1st Squadron had established the critical supply route that follows the ancient Silk Road from the Syrian border to Tall Afar.

On 1 June, 1st Squadron liberated the town of Biaj from the terrorists and immediately reestablished security with the Iraqi Police and Army and A Troop. This successful operation set a precedent for future Regimental counterinsurgency operations across western Ninewa Province. 1st Squadron then moved north of Sinjar Mountain and established security at the Syrian border town of Rabi'ah, where they dismantled passport forging rings and captured other terrorist facilitators. The Regiment helped to establish the Border Police and severely restricted the enemy's ability to smuggle weapons, terrorists, and suicide bombers into Ninewa Province and the rest of Iraq.

In late July and early August, 2nd Squadron, 1st Squadron, U.S. Army Special Forces, and the Iraqi Army conducted a series of operations to defeat the enemy in Avgani, a small town north of Tall Afar that had served as a terrorist stronghold. An Iraqi Army battalion with U.S. Army Special Forces advisors then established permanent security with an Iraqi Police Force built from scratch.



*Members of E Troop establish security during a raid in Avgani on 13 June 2005.
Photo courtesy Christoph Bangert/Polaris.*

Meanwhile, 4th Squadron organized a new Q Troop, that consisted of an attached COLT (Combat Observation and Lasing Team) platoon, a platoon from Air Defense Battery, and a platoon of Iraqi Army Soldiers. Q Troop gave 4th Squadron a unit that could move rapidly over long distances and be inserted to conduct ground reconnaissance missions. Q Troop conducted reconnaissance and security operations in the vast desert in the southern part of the Regiment's area of operations and along the Syrian border.

The Regiment could not have conducted these operations without the efforts of Support Squadron. Support Squadron moved thousands of tons of building materials, fuel, water, and ammunition across an area covering 22,000 square kilometers while mechanics, medics, truck drivers, and other Support Troopers worked tirelessly to sustain the Regiment as it pursued the enemy and brought security to the people of the region.

Prior to coalition operations in August, Al Qaeda in Iraq attempted to reinforce their efforts in Tall Afar. A prominent Al Qaeda in Iraq website proclaimed that the “Lions Tall Afar” would never surrender their stronghold and that they would repel all Coalition and Iraqi Army attempts to regain control of the city. The purpose of Operation Restoring Rights was to defeat the insurgency in Tall Afar so that the enemy could no longer effectively conduct a campaign of intimidation and coercion against the local population, and to destroy the enemy bases of operation they used to stage attacks across the western part of Iraq.

The Iraqi Army and Coalition forces aimed to separate the enemy from the population and set conditions to allow the Regiment to recruit and reconstitute the police in Tall Afar, which was the first step in introducing the rule of law back into Tall Afar.



SPC Crystal Cason, a property book clerk in HHT, Support Squadron, cleans the .50 caliber machinegun she uses when she moves out as a gunner on Mule Skinner convoy missions. Photo courtesy Craig F. Walker/The Denver Post.

Shaping operations for Operation Restoring Rights began with area reconnaissance in outlying communities where the Regiment received intelligence that the enemy was transiting back and forth to Tall Afar. Under the advice of the Iraqi Army, the 43rd Combat Engineer Company then established a berm eight feet tall around Tall Afar to control movement into and out of the city. As the wall was being built the Regiment then integrated 9 Iraqi Army and Police battalions — over 5,500 men — into operations in and around Tall Afar. These forces included a battalion from the 2nd Iraqi Army Division from Irbil, and Iraqi Special Forces battalion,

an Iraqi Commando Brigade, the Mosul Emergency Police Battalion, and five battalions from the 3rd Iraqi Army Division.

As 2nd Squadron conducted operations in Tall Afar, 1st Squadron conducted reconnaissance from the western part of the AO (Area of Operations), moving east towards Tall Afar. 1st Squadron was called upon to reinforce combat efforts during Operation Restoring Freedom. Upon arrival in Tall Afar, tiger conducted a relief in place with 2nd Squadron and assumed control of the western part of the city — an area where the enemy had waged a brutal campaign of intimidation and used vacated homes to set up complex attacks on coalition forces. 1st immediately took the fight to the enemy, inflicting heavy losses, and preventing them diverting the Regiment away from their safe haven in Sarai.



4 September 2005. A 3d ACR Bradley Fighting Vehicle maneuvers down a narrow street in Tall Afar. Photo courtesy Franco Pagetti.

Simultaneously with 1st Squadron's offensive in the west side of the city, 2nd Squadron executed a deliberate attack into eastern Tall Afar to isolate the enemy's safe have in Sarai. Insurgents fought to stop the attack, but suffered heavy losses at the hands of 2nd Squadron, 4th Squadron, and the Iraqi Army.

While 2nd Squadron isolated the enemy in the Sarai district, the Regiment took measures to evacuate civilians from the neighborhood through screening site manned by Support Squadron and the Mosul Emergency Police Battalion. During the course of the evacuation, 1st Squadron moved southeast towards Sarai to further isolate insurgents located there. Attack aviation and precision artillery fires combined with effective ground reconnaissance to defeat the enemy in detail as they tried to escape.

As coalition forces moved in on the enemy, the Regiment gained key intelligence from civilians who wanted to regain control of their city. Intelligence reports indicated that insurgent

leadership and fighters had been so depleted that remaining insurgent leaders began to advise their fighters to escape from Tall Afar at all costs. In order to seize insurgents as they fled the city, Iraqi Army and Police forces helped the Regiment identify enemy fighters trying to escape, capturing over 800.

While the Regiment began to clear enemy homes in the Sarai district, 2nd Battalion (White Falcons), 325th Airborne Infantry Regiment from the 82nd Airborne Division was sent to help strengthen forces already in place. This dismounted infantry battalion gave the Regiment the ability to effectively clear the remainder of the Sarai district, an area that proved very difficult to enter in armored vehicles, and prevent the enemy from regaining a foothold in the area. From 24 August to 23 September coalition forces killed over 150 enemy fighters.

As the bulk of the regiment fought in northwest Iraq, 3rd Squadron became the keystone of the Third Infantry Division's counterinsurgency efforts in South Baghdad and northern Babil Province while they also secured the most critical supply route in the theater. Their aggressive pursuit of the enemy in this critical area dealt a severe blow to the terror network, killing scores of enemy and detaining hundreds.

In addition to the all-important mission of route security, 3rd Squadron conducted numerous operations against enemy safe havens, leading the 3rd Infantry Division's efforts in this critical area. The entrenched enemy in the area south of Baghdad used the complex canal system to hide while planning and staging devastating terror attacks in the city. 3rd Squadron fought through the tough urban and rural area and established key intelligence sources to penetrate the enemy's networks as they also formed partnerships with a newly formed battalion from the Iraqi Army's 6th Division.



Lieutenant Alan Sholes of L Troop searches for weapons on a farm in Babil Province, south of Baghdad, on 7 April 2005. Photo courtesy Todd Heisler/Rocky Mountain News.

3rd Squadron conducted fourteen air assault operations to kill or capture enemy cells and also establish Iraqi Army patrol bases to regain control of this region. Their innovative use of air assault tactics, indirect fires, and patrol bases became the model for counterinsurgency efforts in the difficult south Baghdad region.

The Regiment secured the victory in Tall Afar and across western Ninewa Province by partnering with the Iraqi Army, moving into the communities and living among the people, and re-establishing an Iraqi Police Force that was representative of the ethnic and sectarian balance in the Area of Operations. Immediately following Operation Restoring Rights, the enemy realized that they had lost control of the city and responded to their losses with brutal suicide bombings in an attempt to intimidate the population. Tasting freedom, the people of Tall Afar refused to be intimidated and approximately 70 percent of the population living in Tall Afar voted in the October referendum. The pall of fear over the city lifted and the people responded with some 1765 joining the Police Force, while more than 2700 citizens of western Ninewa enlisted in the Iraqi Army.

The Regiment, working closely with local and national Iraqi government agencies, initiated reconstruction of the city, schools, roads, and parks. Today, over 95 percent of Tall Afar enjoys electricity each day, while the market places are open and the people are genuinely excited about the future of Tall Afar. As further testament to the revitalization of Tall Afar, over 85 percent of the population across western Ninewa Province turned out to vote in December 2005 for their first full-term government.

More importantly, Iraqi Security Forces have taken the lead in conducting counterinsurgency operations. Along the border, Iraqi Border Police routinely interdicted smugglers with no assistance from Coalition forces. Iraqi Army and Iraqi Police across the area AO secured polling sites with little or no Coalition assistance. In Tall Afar and towns throughout the area, local tips hotlines and a Joint Coordination Center allowed Iraqi Police to respond instantaneously to reports of insurgent activity. The Iraqi Army took the lead in establishing security across the province, working closely with the Border Police and Police to provide security for western Ninewa Province.

Anti-Iraqi forces want Iraq to descend into civil war so they can use this land to plan, organize, and conduct mass murder not only in this region, but against all civilized peoples. Western Ninewa seemed the ideal place to incite ethnic, sectarian, and tribal conflict because it is populated by Kurds, Arabs, Yezidis, and Turkomen, who are further subdivided into Turkomen Shia and Turkomen Sunni. After the Regiment and its Iraqi partners reestablished security for the people, reconciliation began between the region's various factions. Life returned to Tall Afar and villages across the province. People are no longer afraid. They are cooperating with rapidly improving Iraqi Security Forces. Economic and political development is proceeding because 3d ACR Troopers, fighting alongside their Iraqi allies, made a difference in real people's lives, bringing security and freedom to the Iraqi people.

The 3d ACR once again paid dearly for its participation in the Global War on Terrorism. Thirty-nine members of the Regiment died during this deployment and approximately 126 were wounded. Four attached Soldiers also died. Despite this sacrifice, the officers and Troopers of the 3d Armored Cavalry Regiment have continued to build upon the heritage established over 160 years ago by the Regiment of Mounted Riflemen. For its service in OIF 04-06, the Regiment was recognized in a speech by President George W. Bush. The President lauded the Regiment for its body of work in Tall Afar, Iraq, as an example of executing the clear, hold and build concept as a success.

In March 2006 the Regiment returned from deployment in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom 04-06. In May, the Regiment officially celebrated its return home to Fort Carson. Joining the Regiment in its celebration was Mayor Najiim Abdullah Al-Jibouri of Tall Afar, Iraq, whose letters to President Bush (Appendix L) and General George Casey, Commander of Troops in Iraq, praised the troopers for their courage and bravery in freeing his city from the grip of insurgents. Mayor Najiim's visit was highlighted by his moving speech during the ceremony to add the names of the Regiment's fallen Troopers from OIF 04-06 to the Regiment's OIF Monument.

After returning from block leave the Regiment began the Department of the Army's Transformation program. This process resulted in relatively minor changes in the Regiment's organizational structure. Air Defense Battery was inactivated on 5 June 2006 and 4th Squadron was reflagged as another unit. The 571st Medical Company (Air Ambulance) was inactivated on 15 April 2006 after having served as part of the Brave Rifles family since July 1996.

Before returning from Iraq, the 3d ACR was notified that it would once again be moving to a new home base - Fort Hood, Texas. As the Regiment prepared to move to Fort Hood under the Base Realignment and Closure plan, many Troopers remained behind to form the nucleus of a new brigade belonging to the 4th Infantry Division. Others were moving on to new assignments or various military schools. Other members of the Regiment completed their enlistments and were discharged from the Army. As a result, the move to Fort Hood, would take place with only a small cadre.

Fort Hood, Texas

On 13 July, 2006, the 3d ACR uncased its colors at Fort Hood, opening a new chapter in the Regiment's history. In conjunction with the uncasing ceremony, 1st Squadron, 1st Aviation Regiment was reflagged as 4th Squadron.

When the Regiment moved from Fort Carson to Fort Hood, the greatest concern was personnel strength since the Regiment brought only about 550 Soldiers down from Colorado. Returning the Regiment to normal strength wasn't the only concern; many new pieces of equipment would be fielded at the same time.

The Regiment arrived at Fort Hood with almost no equipment. The primary combat systems, the M1 Abrams and M3 Bradleys, had been left in Kuwait when the Regiment returned to Fort Carson. This caused an intensive effort to re-equip the 3d ACR with all of the newest gear in the Army. Starting in September, 2nd Squadron fielded the first M1A2 SEPv2 tanks, the latest iteration of the extremely successful Abrams tank. In October, they received the Regiment's first M3A3 Block 2 Cavalry Fighting Vehicles. By March 2006 the Regiment was fully equipped with 123 tanks and 125 Bradleys.

New Troopers began arriving immediately. 2nd Squadron received initial priority for Troopers with Military Occupational Specialties 19K and 19D, as they were the first unit scheduled to undergo training on the new equipment. The influx of personnel remained constant enough to bring the Regiment to 99% of its authorized strength, allowing it to conduct the extensive collective training required to prepare for the next CENTCOM deployment.

In addition to these critical platforms, 4th Squadron was outfitted with the latest AH-64D Apache Longbow attack helicopters. As part of the transformation, the OH-58D Kiowa Warrior helicopters of N, O and P Troops were replaced by two troops of Apaches. The Regiment also completed the fielding and certification of its indirect fire assets, both M109A6 Paladin 155mm howitzers and M1064 120mm mortar systems.

Inside the vehicles are the latest Command and Control systems and communications devices that bring the Regiment on-line with other “digitized” units. The Future Battle Command, Brigade and Below (FBCB2) system is now hard-wired into the fleet of tactical vehicles, providing the commanders with extraordinary situational awareness with regards to both friendly and enemy forces. Combined with the extensive fielding of Army Battle Command Systems, from Maneuver Control Stations to monitor and control the ground squadrons, to the All-Source Analysis System, an intelligence data base structure designed to facilitate pattern and link analysis of enemy actions, the Regimental Commander now has unprecedented resources at his disposal to plan and execute missions.



An Eagle Troop M1064A3 mortar carrier fires a 120mm round at the Curry Mortar Complex at Fort Hood, Texas, 14 February 2007.

While waiting on their new equipment, the Troopers were able to refine their skills with their individual and crew served weapons, as well as Warrior Tasks and battle drills training. Once the Regiment had the personnel and equipment it needed, extensive training began. Beginning with Gunnery exercises in November and culminating in platoon and troop situational training exercises starting in January, the Regiment built the small, lethal, and agile teams, squads and platoons that will be so crucial to success if called upon to deploy.

The capstone event is the Cavalry Table XIII Combined Arms Live Fire Exercise (CALFEX) that provides Troop and Company Commanders the opportunity to maneuver their units in a permissive range environment while simultaneously coordinating artillery, mortars, AH-64D Apache attack helicopters and Air force fixed wing close air support. This exercise brings all the assets of the 3d Armored Cavalry to bear against a simulated enemy armored attack across a notional international border.

The Department of Defense announced in May, 2007, that the Regiment would deploy to Iraq in the fall of 2007. The Regiment conducted a Communications Exercise during the first week of May to exercise the new Command and Control systems, and construct the framework of information flow and control of maneuver formations.

The 3d ACR, already poised for their National Training Center (NTC) rotation in June, used the news of another deployment to Iraq as motivation to ensure it would be ready by distinguishing itself at NTC. The move to the NTC served as an exciting opportunity to exercise all of the new equipment in a multi-echelon, full-spectrum environment. This was the first time the Regiment deployed with all of its equipment and personal to a combat training center in preparation for their eventual deployment to Iraq. During the Regiments 07-09 rotation, officials at NTC noted that of the 23 previous units who had trained there, it was the best rotation they had observed.

Today, the 3d Armored Cavalry Regiment continues to stand ready to deploy to the frontiers of freedom and defend the American people.

PART II: REGIMENTAL CUSTOMS AND TRADITIONS

Regimental Insignia

Coat of Arms

The Regimental Coat of Arms for the 3d Armored Cavalry Regiment was originally approved for the 3d Cavalry Regiment on 7 May 1921. The Coat of Arms was redesignated for the 3d Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron, Mechanized on 28 February 1945. On 18 December 1951, the Coat of Arms was once again redesignated, this time for the 3d Armored Cavalry Regiment. The Coat of Arms was amended to revise its symbolism on 27 June 1960. On 21 February 1974 the 3d Armored Cavalry Regiment was issued a formal Grant of Arms by the U.S. Army Institute of Heraldry.

Blazon

Shield: Vert (green), on a cross argent (silver) a tower of the field (green) on a chief or (gold) bend gules (red).

Crest: On a wreath of the colors argent (silver) and vert (green) a trumpet palewise (vertical) or (gold).

Motto: Brave Rifles! Veterans! You have been baptized in fire and blood and have come out steel!



Symbolism

The Regiment's original green facings on the uniform and its gold trumpet insignia are shown by the color of the shield and by the crest. The unit's first engagement was the capture of Vera Cruz, and its continued with especially distinguished service throughout the campaign of 1847 to the capture of Mexico City. Upon entering the city, it hoisted the Stars and Stripes over the national palace and displayed the regimental standard from the palace balcony, which drew from General Scott the statement, "Brave Rifles! Veterans! You have been baptized in fire and blood and come out steel."* The campaign is shown by the cross for Vera Cruz and the tower in green (the Mexican color) for fortified Mexico City, the first and last engagements thereof. The chief, taken from the arms of Lorraine, commemorates the Regiment's World War I service.

*It has since been determined that General Scott actually made this statement in a speech to the Regiment at Contreras, rather than in Mexico City. See Appendix G for the full text of the speech.

Regimental Distinctive Unit Insignia

The original branch insignia of the Regiment of Mounted Riflemen was a trumpet rather than the crossed sabers of the dragoon regiments, the only other mounted units in the Army at that time. This trumpet surmounts the crest on the Regimental Coat of Arms and appears on the present day Regimental Distinctive Unit Insignia, which is shown below. Affectionately known as the "Bug" due to its shape, this distinctive insignia was originally approved for the 3d Cavalry Regiment on 25 November 1922, and amended to revise its description on 5 January 1923. On 18 December 1951, this insignia was redesignated for the 3d Armored Cavalry Regiment.



Description

A green enameled metal device 1 1/16th inches in width consisting of a gold colored metal trumpet, mouthpiece up, entwined vertically with a cord, surmounting a green enamel scroll arced on the left and the right and looped below the trumpet inscribed "BRAVE" on the viewer's left and "RIFLES" on the viewer's right, and the numeral "3" centered on the lower segment, all in gold colored metal.

Regimental Shoulder Sleeve Insignia

The shoulder sleeve insignia for the 3d Armored Cavalry Regiment was officially authorized by the Department of the Army on 12 June 1967.



Description

On a green disk with 1/8 inch border, 2 3/4 inch diameter overall; a yellow trumpet bound with a gray cord and with mouthpiece up, in front of and extending above a green scroll; edged in yellow and bears the 'BRAVE' to the left of the trumpet in gray lettering, and 'RIFLES' to the right of the trumpet in gray lettering. The numeral '3' in gray is centered below the trumpet bell. The device on the disk is similar to the Regimental Distinctive Unit insignia. The colors, green and yellow refer to the uniform with green facings and the gold trumpet insignia authorized the Regiment in the uniform regulations of 1851. The words "BRAVE RIFLES" are derived from the accolade given to the Regiment by General Winfield Scott. The gray color of the letters and the numeral "3" simulates the color of steel and refers to the Regimental Motto, "Blood and Steel", which is also derived from the Regimental Accolade.

Symbolism

The green scroll represents the green facings on the distinctive uniforms authorized for the Regiment of Mounted Riflemen in 1851. The uniform regulations of 1851 also authorized the trumpet as the unit insignia for the Regiment. The numeral "3" indicates that the 3d Armored Cavalry Regiment is descended from the Regiment of Mounted Riflemen, being numbered 3 because it was the third mounted unit in the Army, after the 1st and 2d Dragoons which became the 1st and 2d Cavalry Regiments in the reorganization of 1861.

History of the Regimental Shoulder Sleeve Insignia

The shoulder sleeve insignia was first worn by the members of the 3d Cavalry Group (Mechanized) of World War II. The Group never received any written authorization to develop and wear the patch. Instead, it received verbal permission of General George S. Patton, Jr., Commander of the Third U.S. Army. At the end of WWII the Regiment was required to remove its unauthorized shoulder sleeve insignia and wear in its place the shoulder patch of its next higher headquarters. However, the troopers continued to proudly wear their distinctive unit patches on an unofficial basis on the left breast pockets of their fatigue uniforms. The Department of the Army finally authorized the wear of distinctive shoulder sleeve insignia for separate brigades and regiments in 1967.

The late General Polk (32nd Colonel) recalls:

...The regiment never received any formal correspondence authorizing the... wear of a regimental patch. ...Gen Patton asked me personally why no member of the regiment wore a patch... He then answered his own question by saying that he... supposed we did not enjoy particularly the wearing of a Third Army patch as it connoted support troops such as truck companies, engineer battalions and the like... I then asked his permission to design a patch incorporating the 3d Cavalry "Bug", the regimental insignia worn on our dress uniform. ...He readily agreed. ...I have been challenged on occasion by officers with a statement that I am wearing an unauthorized patch. My reply has always been that the patch was authorized by General Patton personally and that I consider this good and sufficient authorization....

NOTE: IT IS A VIOLATION OF BOTH ARMY POLICY AND TITLE 18, USC, SECTION 701 TO ALTER MILITARY INSIGNIA FOR ANY REASON. Persons or organizations needing graphic examples of any 3d ACR insignia should use only the original designs rather than attempting to create their own versions. Approved versions may be obtained from the Third Cavalry Museum.

Regimental Color

The Regimental color is emerald green. This was the branch color of the Mounted Rifles and trimmed the distinctive uniforms worn from 1851 to 1861.

Regimental Motto

The Regimental Motto is "Blood and Steel". It derives from the Regimental Accolade.

Traditional Unit Designation

The Traditional Unit Designation for the 3d Armored Cavalry Regiment is "BRAVE RIFLES". This designation, awarded to the Regiment for its many years of faithful and distinguished service, was officially granted to the Regiment by the Secretary of the Army on 19 January 1977.

Other Customs and Traditions

Regimental Abbreviation

Since August of 1861, when using the numeral “3” in stead of the word “Third”, the proper form is “3d” with a small case “d”. An upper case “D” is never used, nor are “R”, “r” or “3ACR”.

Regimental Greeting

The Regimental greeting is rendered by all enlisted troopers to officers and by junior officers to senior officers. The greeting is exchanged as follows:

Junior individual exclaims: *“Brave Rifles, Sir or (Ma’am)!”*

Senior individual responds: *“Veterans!”*

Regimental Battle Cry

“AH-EE-YAH!” is the Regimental Battle Cry. It was adopted from the Indians and symbolizes the cry of the Cavalry Trooper charging into battle. It has evolved into a form of slang used by members of the Regiment, referring to or meaning anything and everything except “no” and is synonymous with HOO-AH!

Regimental Accolade

This phrase, which originated with General Winfield Scott, has been adopted by the Regiment as its Accolade and is also the source of the Regimental Motto and the Regimental Greeting (see Appendix G). It is normally rendered by all personnel prior to passing in review during parades, and prior to dismissal from some formations. It is rendered in the following manner:

Regimental, Squadron, or Troop Commander: *“Prepare for the Regimental Accolade!”*

Squadron, Troop Commander or Platoon Leader: *“Prepare to sound off!”*

Regimental, Squadron, or Troop Commander: *“Brave Rifles!”*

All personnel respond: *“Veterans!”*

Regimental, Squadron, or Troop Commander: *“Blood and Steel!”*

All personnel respond: *“AH-EE-YAH!”*

Regimental Standard

The organizational flag of a mounted unit has traditionally been referred to as a “standard”, as opposed to the term “colors” which has been used to refer to organizational flags of foot units. The regimental standard is symbolic of branch, history, and the spirit and tradition of the organization. The standard and its companion National Colors are displayed in the Regimental Commander’s office, and are carried in all Regimental ceremonies and formations.

When a new standard is issued, the old one is retired from service and placed in the Third Cavalry Museum. All the Regimental Standards that are known to exist are part of the Museum’s collection, beginning with the second Standard, which dates from 1848. The first Standard was presented to Congress at the conclusion of the Mexican War and has since disappeared.

Possession of colors and guidons by private individuals and organizations is a violation of Federal Law 10 USC 4565. Giving a flag as a memento constitutes a felony. A copy of 10 USC 4565 is available at the JAG office.

Regimental Pass in Review

The command to pass the Regiment, or any element thereof, in review during a parade ceremony is given in the following manner:

Reviewing officer: *"Brave Rifles – pass in review!"*

Regimental Saber of Command

The Saber of Command has traditionally represented the authority of the Regimental Commander. At a Regimental change of command ceremony, the Saber of Command is passed from the outgoing Commander to the incoming Commander, thus signifying the relinquishment, transfer, and assumption of command of the Regiment. The Saber of Command is displayed in the Regimental Commander's office.

Command Lineage

It is customary for the Regimental Commander and the Regimental Command Sergeant Major to sign all correspondence in such a manner as to indicate their number in chronological succession of command or responsibility, e.g. "68th Colonel", or XIVth Command Sergeant Major".

Order of the Spur

The Spur Program was created to recognize those Troopers and officers who have demonstrated a level of professional expertise which exceeds that expected of other soldiers in the Army. The quest for admittance to the Order of the Spur during peacetime, ending with the Spur Ride, is an essential part of the development of all cavalymen. Successful completion of the Spur program results in the award of a pair of spurs and membership in the Order. While participation is strictly voluntary, spurs are highly sought after and are a visible symbol of the qualities of professional excellence that all cavalymen strive to achieve. Spurs are also earned by virtue of having served in combat with a cavalry unit.

Order of the Garter

When a newly assigned officer or senior NCO is hailed by his unit, his lady is also welcomed and enrolled into the Order of the Garter. The lady receives a yellow garter with blue ribbon and a certificate of enrollment.

Organization Day

Each year, the Regiment celebrates its anniversary with a series of activities and events intended to recall its history, customs, and traditions. The Regiment first celebrated Organization Day on 19 May 1921. 19 May was the day on which the Regiment of Mounted Riflemen was authorized by an Act of Congress in 1845. Though on 14 July 1967, the Department of the Army officially recognized 12 October as Unit Day for the 3d ACR in recognition of its formal organization at Jefferson Barracks, Missouri on 12 October 1846, the anniversary is usually celebrated in May.

The celebration typically includes a field day in which units of the Regiment compete against each other in a series of military and athletic competitions, a Regimental Ball, and a Regimental formation. At this formation, the Regimental Commander may give a short address to the troops, followed by a summation of the regimental history, battle honors, and Medal of Honor recipients.

Reporting for Duty and Leaving the Regiment

Immediately after an officer or senior NCO is assigned to the Regiment, it is customary for a letter of welcome to be dispatched from the Regiment to the individual. In the case of an officer, the letter is sent by the Regimental Commander, while the letter of welcome for an NCO is sent by the Regimental Command Sergeant Major. These letters usually enclose such information as may be desirable for orienting the individual and facilitating his or her immediate adjustment to probable new duties and new station.

All new officers normally report to the Regimental Adjutant and then are interviewed at an appropriate time by the Regimental Commander, who will orient new officers as to the mission and organization of the Regiment. When departing the Regiment, whether for civilian life or a new duty assignment, it is customary for all officers to pay their respects in person to the Regimental Commander.

Change of Command

A change of command is a formal ceremony conducted within the Regiment whenever a new commander takes command of a unit. Change of command ceremonies for troop/company/battery size units are normally conducted at squadron formations. A Squadron Change of command is usually performed at a squadron formation and when the Regiment changes commanders, the entire Regiment is usually formed for the occasion.

After the ceremony, a reception is held so that guests and members of the command may congratulate the new commander and his or her spouse. As soon as possible following his assumption of command, the new Regimental Commander addresses all assigned members of the Regiment in separate assemblies, usually at Squadron level.

Regimental March

The official march of the Regiment is "*Brave Rifles*", by C. Campagna. This march was composed in 1937 and dedicated to the Regiment during the command of Kenyon A. Joyce, 26th Colonel, while the Regiment was stationed at Ft. Myer, Virginia. The march is customarily played at all Regimental ceremonies and formations where the Regiment passes in review.

Regimental Song

The Regimental Song is "Green Grow the Rushes, Ho!" The exact circumstances by which the Regiment selected this song as its very own have been lost to history. It is tradition, though not established fact, that the term "Gringo", a slang term often used by the people of Latin America when referring to Americans, originated from this song. Supposedly the Mexican populace heard the Regiment of Mounted Riflemen singing while on the march during its campaigns in the Mexican War and derived the word "Gringo" from the phrase "Green Grow". The new label was first applied to the Mounted Riflemen, then to all American troops, eventually becoming universally applied to all Americans.

All the verses of this song as sung by the Regiment have been lost to history. The original twelve verses, dating back to the Middle Ages, are still in existence, but they are basically religious in nature, and soldiers have never been known to be very pious, particularly when it has come to composing and singing verses for their marching and drinking songs. In all probability, the original words parodied Burns' lyrics who's chorus was: "The sweetest hours that ere' I spent were spent among the lasses, O!"

Dining In

Approximately once a quarter, the officers and selected NCOs of the Regiment meet for a Dining In or Formal Mess Night. Instituted as a custom in the 3d ACR during the 1950's, the Dining In provides an opportunity for the officers and NCOs to participate in the ceremony and tradition integral to the life of a cavalry unit.

Regimental Toast

The Regimental Toast is customarily offered by the Regimental Commander to the officers of the Regiment at a Formal Mess Night. The origin of this toast dates from the 1960's when the Regiment was stationed in the Federal Republic of Germany. The author is unknown. The Regimental Toast is given in the following manner:

I propose a toast:

To the Brave Rifles who stormed Chapultepec for General Winfield Scott, who were baptized in fire and blood and came out steel and who raised the colors of victory over President Santa Ana's Palace.

To the Mounted Riflemen who rode westward from Missouri to the Pacific, opening and protecting the Oregon Trail and securing the frontiers of our advancing civilization.

To the Cavalry veteran who protected the Texans, fought bravely in the Indian Wars, and rode in the bitter fighting of the War Between the States.

To the Cavalryman who fought victoriously in Cuba, in the Philippines and in France during WWI.

To the Mechanized trooper who, as a "Ghost" of Patton's Army, provided the sharp point to the spear which pierced the heart of Germany.

And too, to the Armored Cavalryman who was rushed to Europe to help tip the balance of force against the Cold War threats of our country's enemies.

To the Armored Cavalryman who rushed to protect Saudi Arabia and liberate Kuwait in only 100 hours and who brought peace to war-torn Bosnia.

To the Armored Cavalryman who returned again and again to the plains of Mesopotamia to free the Iraqi people from the tyranny of global terrorism.

Yes, I propose a toast to many men--many Brave Rifles who are as one. I propose a toast to that dedicated fighting professional, the Trooper of the 3d Armored Cavalry Regiment.

Births in the Regiment

When a baby is born to an officer of the Regiment, the event is commemorated by the presentation of a silver baby cup appropriately inscribed and engraved with the Regimental Distinctive Unit Insignia.

Deaths in the Regiment

When the Regiment is in garrison and one of its officers or troopers passes away, memorial services are held in the Chapel by the unit to which the individual was assigned. The Squadron Chaplain conducts the services and honors are rendered according to the rank of the deceased. It is customary for the Regimental Commander, Regimental Command Sergeant Major and the respective Squadron Commander and Squadron Command Sergeant Major to be in attendance.

When the Regiment is engaged in combat operations, away from its home base, besides the services conducted in theater, services are conducted in the home base chapel by the rear detachment and installation chaplains office. Maximum participation at these services is encouraged to show support for the members of the Regiment while they are away.

Regimental Grace

The origin of this blessing is unknown, having been lost to history. It is normally presented by the Regimental Chaplain prior to the serving of the dinner at a Dining in. It reads as follows:

Most Gracious God, who hast enriched thy creation with many blessings, we now evoke Thy presence with all Brave Rifles gathered about these tables. May the food so plenteously supplied to us cause us to renew our expressions of Thanksgiving to Thee. May the strength received from this food nourish our spiritual body.

Bless those who have prepared this food and those about to partake of it, in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. AMEN.

Regimental Prayer

The author of the original Regimental Prayer is unknown. It is normally presented by the Regimental Chaplain at the conclusion of a dining in. The prayer was revised in 1965 by E. A. Simon, the Regimental Chaplain, to read as follows:

Almighty and Eternal God, our Heavenly Father, we come to thee now through thy Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ, asking thee to hear and honor our prayer. We thank thee, our Father, for thy continual guidance over the destiny of our Regiment of Mounted Riflemen and pray that each trooper will faithfully follow thy direction throughout his life.

We beseech thee to help us always to be worthy of those glorious achievements, inherited from our forefathers and which are now entrusted to us.

With thy divine assistance, may we carry our colors with courage, honor, and distinction.

We ask thee to guide our leaders, bless our troopers and cause all of us who serve thee to be faithful to thy name. In times of combat, may our arms be victorious over our enemies, so that a just and lasting peace may come to the world.

And Lord, when our final Taps is sounded, may each Brave Rifleman, who knew and served thee in this life, be called before thy throne to receive their eternal award. These things we ask in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. AMEN

Weddings in the Regiment

At wedding ceremonies for officers of the Regiment, it is customary for an arch of cavalry sabers to be formed by the groomsmen outside the chapel entrance, under which the newlyweds pass when departing the chapel. It is also customary for the officer and his new bride to be presented with a wedding tray inscribed with the Regimental Distinctive Unit Insignia. *NOTE: the Third Cavalry Museum does not provide the sabers for these ceremonies.*

Holidays

On New Year's Day it is customary for officers of the Regiment and their spouses to call on their respective Squadron Commander and the Regimental Commander at their quarters at a specified time. On Thanksgiving and Christmas, all dining facilities hold an Open House for officers, troopers and their families and guests.

Lucky Sixteen

When the 3d Cavalry joined the 2d and 11th in the Cold War General Defense Plan of Europe, the regiments became known as the "Lucky 16" (the total of the regimental numbers 2, 3, and 11.) Whenever two of the Lucky 16 Regiments are in the same location the Lucky 16 convenes in a social setting to renew old friendships and strengthen comradeship.

REGIMENTAL AWARDS

There are several types of Regimental Awards given to officers, troopers and families of the Regiment.

Order of the Brave Rifles

Upon departing the Regiment, officers are permanently enrolled as Troopers in the Order of the Brave Rifles. Under exceptional circumstances, distinguished civilian and military officers of the United States and foreign countries may be enrolled in the Order of the Brave Rifles as the "Bravest Rifle".

Honorary Squadron of Mounted Riflemen

The Honorary Squadron of Mounted Riflemen recognizes significant contributions to the Regiment. The award consists of a mounted certificate awarded at a Punch Bowl Ceremony in the Regimental Conference Room. The recipient will have his/her name annotated in the rolls of the Honorary Squadron of Mounted Riflemen during the ceremony.

Regimental Coin of Excellence

The 3d Armored Cavalry Regimental Coin of Excellence provides special recognition from the Regimental Commander or Commander Sergeant Major for outstanding training, duty performance, or special activity. Individuals are recognized on the spot for their outstanding efforts. Anyone associated with the Regiment is eligible, regardless of rank, specialty skill, or duty position and it may be awarded at any time and any place.

Certificate of Recognition

Troopers departing the Regiment who have distinguished themselves during their period of service and who are recommended by their Commanders, are eligible to receive a Certificate of Recognition from the Regimental Commander. Awards are also presented to those individuals selected as Trooper and NCO of the Quarter and Trooper and NCO of the Year. The Regimental Command Sergeant Major oversees selection of the recipients.

Lady of the Brave Rifles

The lady of a departing officer is accorded the honor of being enrolled as a Lady of the Brave Rifles. This honor recognizes her contribution in support of the Regiment through participation in family support groups and community activities on behalf of the Regiment.

Accolade to a Cav Lady

*Ai-ee-yah!'s the cry of
The 3d Armored Cav,
A reminder of pride
In the history we have.*

*So hold your head high
You're a part of this clan,
A Faithful Cav Lady
Who stands by her man.*

*You've paid your dues,
Lonely nights and long days,
The wife of a soldier
Seldom gets praise.*

*This memento is given
With love's lusty yell,
Ai-ee-yah! Brave Rifle!
Godspeed and Farewell!*

Appendix A

TRANSCRIPTION OF THE ACT OF CONGRESS ESTABLISHING THE REGIMENT OF MOUNTED RIFLEMEN

The 3d Armored Cavalry Regiment was originally organized and equipped as the Regiment of Mounted Riflemen. The Regiment was authorized by an act passed by the 29th Congress of the United States on 19 May 1845. This act, entitled "An Act to provide for raising a regiment of mounted riflemen and for establishing military stations on the route to Oregon," is reproduced here in its entirety:

Twenty-ninth Congress of the United States;

At the first session,

Begun and held at the City of Washington, the first day of December, one thousand eight hundred and forty-five.

AN ACT

To provide for raising a regiment of mounted riflemen, and for establishing military stations on the route to Oregon.

"Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled.

"That there shall be raised one regiment of mounted riflemen, to be composed and organized as follows, to wit ... one colonel, one lieutenant colonel, one major, one quartermaster-sergeant, two chief buglers, and one adjutant who shall be a lieutenant, one sergeant major, one chief musician, and ten companies; each company shall consist of one captain, one first lieutenant, one second lieutenant, (exclusive of the adjutant lieutenant), four sergeants, four corporals, two buglers, one farrier, one blacksmith and sixty-four privates.

"Section 2. And be it further enacted. That the officers, non-commissioned officers, musicians, and privates shall be entitled to the same pay and emoluments as are allowed to dragoons, and that the farrier and blacksmith shall receive the same pay and allowances as are allowed to an artificer of artillery.

"Section 3. And be it further enacted. That the said regiment of riflemen shall be subject to the rules of war, and shall be recruited in the same manner as other troops in the service of the

United States, and with same conditions and limitations; and the officers, noncommissioned officers, musicians, privates, blacksmiths and farriers shall be entitled to the same provisions for wounds and disabilities, and the same provisions for widows and children, and the same allowances and benefits in every respect, as are allowed to other troops composing the army of the United States.

“Section 4. And be it further enacted. That the non-commissioned officers, musicians, and privates of said regiment, when employed in constructing fortifications, making surveys, cutting roads or performing other labor, shall be allowed fifteen cents a day each with a commutation in money for the extra spirit ration, as provided by the act of the second of March, One Thousand Eight Hundred and Nineteen entitled "An act to regulate the pay of the army when on fatigue duty".

“Section 5. And be it further enacted. That the sum of seventy-six thousand five hundred dollars, for mounting and equipping said regiment, be, and the same hereby is appropriated, and a sum be paid out of any moneys in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated.

“Section 6. And be it further enacted. That a sum not exceeding three thousand dollars, out of any moneys in the treasury, not otherwise appropriated, be, and the same hereby is appropriated, to defray the expenses of each military station or defense which the President may deem necessary on the line of communication with Oregon; and a sum not exceeding two thousand dollars for making compensation to the Indian tribes which may own or possess the ground on which the said station may be erected, and for each station.”

Appendix B

CERTIFICATES OF LINEAGE AND HONORS

The certificates attesting to a unit's lineage and honors are the most important documents relating to the history of that unit. Issued by the Department of the Army's Center of Military History, they are the unit's birth certificate, its deed to organizational properties, and its service record. While the original copies are in the Regimental Museum, the information contained on them has been reproduced here to aid in tracing the history of the Regiment.

The 3d Armored Cavalry Regiment has received credit for participation in forty campaigns during the course of its history. It has been awarded a battle streamer for each of the forty campaigns. These streamers are affixed to the top of the staff on which the Regimental Standard is carried.

Lineage

Constituted 19 May 1846 in the Regular Army as the Regiment of Mounted Riflemen.

Organized 12 October 1846 at Jefferson Barracks, Missouri. Redesignated 3 August 1861 as 3d United States Cavalry.

Inactivated 15 July 1942 at Fort Benning, Georgia; personnel and equipment transferred to 3d Armored Regiment (see annex). Redesignated 18 January 1943 as 3d Cavalry, Mechanized.

Activated 15 March 1943 at Camp Gordon, Georgia.

Regiment broken up 3 November 1943 and its elements reorganized and redesignated as Headquarters and Headquarters Troop, 3d Cavalry Group, Mechanized and the 3d and 43d Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadrons, Mechanized.

Headquarters and Headquarters Troop, 3d Cavalry Group, Mechanized, inactivated 22 December 1945 at Camp Kilmer, New Jersey. Activated 26 February 1946 at Fort George G. Meade, Maryland. Redesignated 5 November 1948 as Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 3d Armored Cavalry; organization of the remainder of 3d Armored Cavalry completed 3 November 1948 by redefinition of elements of 3d and 43d Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadrons, Mechanized and by reconstruction, redefinition, and activation of certain other elements of the 3d Cavalry which had been inactivated or demobilized 1921-1928.

3d, 777th, and 21st Tank Battalions (see annex) consolidated with 3d Armored Cavalry 8 January 1951. (Battalions and Companies redesignated Squadrons and Troops, 1 June 1960).

Annex

3d Armored Regiment constituted 11 July 1942 in the Army of the United States and assigned to 10th Armored Division. Activated 15 July 1942 at Fort Benning, Georgia with personnel and equipment from 3d Cavalry.

Regiment broken up and its elements reorganized and redesignated 20 September 1943 as follows: 3d Armored Regiment (less 1st and 3d Battalions, Band, Maintenance, Service, and Reconnaissance Companies) as 3d Tank Battalion. 1st Battalion as 777th Tank Battalion and relieved from assignment to 10th Armored Division; 3d Battalion as 21st Tank Battalion; Reconnaissance Company, as Troop D, 90th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron, Mechanized (separate lineage); Band and Maintenance and Service Companies disbanded.

Above Battalions inactivated as follows: 3d Tank Battalion 13 October 1945 at Camp Patrick Henry, Virginia. 777th Tank Battalion 24 October 1945 at Camp San Luis Obispo, California. 21st Tank Battalion 19 October 1945 at Camp Myles Standish, Massachusetts.

3d, 777th, and 21st Tank Battalions consolidated 8 January 1951 with 3d Armored Cavalry; concurrently, 3d and 21st Tank Battalions relieved from assignment to 10th Armored Division.

Appendix C

CAMPAIGN PARTICIPATION CREDITS

Regimental

Mexican War

Vera Cruz
Cerro Gordo
Contreras
Churubusco
Chapultepec
Vera Cruz 1847

Indian Wars

Comanches
Cheyennes
Utes
Little Big Horn
Texas 1856
New Mexico 1857
New Mexico 1858
New Mexico 1860
New Mexico 1861
New Mexico 1867
New Mexico 1869
Oklahoma 1868
Arizona 1870
Arizona 1871
Arizona 1882

Operation Iraqi Freedom

Iraq

Civil War

Chattanooga
New Mexico 1861
New Mexico 1862
Alabama 1863
Tennessee 1863
Arkansas 1864

War With Spain

Santiago

Philippine Insurrection

Luzon 1899
Luzon 1900
San Fabian
San Isidro

World War I

Without inscription

World War II

Northern France
Rhineland
Ardennes-Alsace
Central Europe

Southwest Asia

Defense of Saudi Arabia
Liberation and Defense of
Kuwait

Troops Entitled to Additional Campaign Participation Credits (streamers)

TROOP A

Texas 1855	Pecos River, 7 January 1859
New Mexico 1859	Santa Teresa Mountains, 3 and 18 December 1859
Philippine Islands 1901	Near Parar, Ilocos Norte, 21 February 1901

TROOP B

Nebraska 1872	Loupe River, 26 April 1872
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TROOP C

South Dakota 1877	Hay Creek, near Deadwood, 23 February 1877
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TROOP F

Texas 1869	Sangre Canyon, 22 April 1869
	Near San Augustine Pass, 15 August 1869
	Guadalupe Mountains, 18 November 18 November 1869
	Sanguinaria Canyon, Guadalupe Mountains, 26 December 1869

TROOP I

Molino del Rey	Mexico, 8 September 1847
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UNIT AWARDS

Regimental

Distinguished Unit Citation, embroidered *BASTOGNE* (The name of this award was changed to "The Presidential Unit Citation" on 3 November 1966.)

3d Tank Battalion, 10th Armored Division (less Company C) and Company C, 21st Tank Battalion, 10th Armored Division "for extraordinary heroism in military operations against an armed enemy." These units earned this award for their part in the defense of Bastogne, Belgium from 18 to 27 December, 1944 during the "Battle of the Bulge". These units were made up of elements of the 3d (horse) Cavalry that were transferred to the 3d Armored Regiment in July 1942. They were consolidated with the 3d Armored Cavalry Regiment on 8 January 1951.

Belgian Croix de Guerre (1940) With Palm, embroidered *BASTOGNE*

This decoration was awarded by the Belgian Government to the 3d Tank Battalion, 10th Armored Division (less Company C) and Company C, 21st Tank Battalion, 10th Armored Division for their part in the defense of Bastogne, Belgium from 18 to 27 December, 1944. These units were made up of elements of the 3d (horse) Cavalry and transferred to the 3d Armored Regiment in July 1942. They were consolidated with the 3d Armored Cavalry Regiment on 8 January 1951. *Only those soldiers who actually participated in this battle are authorized to wear this award on their uniforms.*

Valorous Unit Award for Operation Iraqi Freedom I embroidered *AL ANBAR PROVINCE 2003*

By direction of the Secretary of the Army, the Valorous Unit Award is awarded to:

3d ARMORED CAVALRY

for extraordinary heroism in action against an armed enemy of the United States: During the period 25 April 2003 to 18 September 2003, the 3d Armored Cavalry displayed extraordinary heroism in action against an armed enemy while in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. The unit performed an economy of force mission stretching across expansive terrain much larger than the Regiment is doctrinally designed to secure, encompassing an area more than 120,000 square kilometers in size and containing a population of over 1 million residents. The Regiment performed tasks ranging across the entire spectrum of combat operations in the area of the "Sunni Triangle," while maintaining the largest assigned area of responsibility and functioning as the smallest maneuver unit directly subordinate to Combined Joint Task Force-7. The unit accepted the surrender of Iraqi forces remaining in zone and then attacked former regime loyalists in what proved to be the most insurgency-plagued area of the country. The unit continued to establish order among a population whose government had collapsed and began rebuilding much of the infrastructure of the Al Anbar province. Battling summer conditions in a brutal desert environment, the unit maintained high morale, achieved highly extraordinary feats for a unit of its size, and upheld the proud legacy of traditions set by cavalry units long ago. The 3d Armored Cavalry's performance of duty reflects great credit upon the unit and the United States Army.

Troops

Present day Troop E (Troop B, 43d Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron in WWII):

Streamer, French Croix de Guerre (WWII) with Silver-Gilt Star, embroidered *MOSELLE* (see below)

Troop B, 43d Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron (Mechanized)

French Croix De Guerre With Silver-Gilt Star, awarded under Decision No. 247, 15 July 1946, by the President of the Provisional Government of the French Republic, with the following citation:

“A magnificent shock troop, eager and of wonderful courage. It particularly distinguished itself on 5 November 1944, at the capture of Berg, which defended the crossing of the Moselle. It attacked, without artillery preparation, positions strongly held by a trained and fanatical enemy. In spite of gunfire which was annihilating its ranks, this unit gave proof of wonderful dash and, aided by tanks, captured the position. It held this position despite terrific bombardment. In the course of the mopping up, it took 17 prisoners.”

Present day Troop K (Troop C, 3d Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron in WWII):

Streamer, French Croix de Guerre (WWII) with Palm, embroidered *LORRAINE* (see below)

Troop C, 3d Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron (Mechanized)

French Croix De Guerre With Palm, awarded under Decision No. 267, 22 July 1946, by the President of the provisional Government of the French Republic, with the following citation:

“A unit skilled in maneuvers, full of dash, which stood out by the bravery of its fighters. It distinguished itself particularly at Mars-la-Tour, where an enemy airdrome was recaptured with a considerable quantity of fuel, at Saint Private and Sainte Marie, by doing effective reconnaissance work for the 7th Armored Division, then in the capture of Metz, by neutralizing on the Vionville-Rezonville-Gravelotte-Rezerieuilles Line, an important number of emplacements of heavy arms and again by bringing back valuable information about the enemy. By this series of daring and deep reconnaissance actions during the months of August and September 1944, this unit made it possible for the third U. S. Army to advance rapidly across France up to the Moselle.”

HHT, 4th Squadron and Troops N, O, P, Q, R, S, T:

Meritorious Unit Commendation (Army), Streamer Embroidered *SOUTHWEST ASIA*

By direction of the Secretary of the Army, the Meritorious Unit Commendation is awarded to: 4th Squadron, 3d Armored Cavalry for exceptionally meritorious conduct in performance of outstanding service:

4th Squadron, 3d Armored Cavalry distinguished itself by outstanding meritorious performance for the period 23 September 1990 to 5 April 1991, while engaged in combat with Iraqi forces. The 4th Squadron, 3d Armored Cavalry screened the Easter flank of the XVIII Airborne Corps and maintained contact with the VII Corps. Throughout the campaign, units of the 4th Squadron were in continuous contact with the enemy as the Regiment plunged over 350 kilometers deep into Iraq and the heart of the Republican Guard. In all actions and engagements, the troopers of the 4th Squadron, 3d Armored Cavalry displayed the true Cavalry spirit, courage, and determination to find and defeat the enemy. The accomplishments of the 4th Squadron, 3d Armored Cavalry reflects great credit upon themselves and the United States Army.

Army Superior Unit Award, Streamer Embroidered 1994

By direction of the Secretary of the Army, the Army Superior Unit Award is awarded to: 4th Squadron, 3d Armored Cavalry for outstanding meritorious performance during peacetime of a difficult and challenging mission:

During the period 27 June 1994 to 1 December 1994, the 4th Squadron, 3d Armored Cavalry distinguished itself by excelling in sustainment and training functions while simultaneously planning for and executing major force modernization actions. Challenged with a National Training Center rotation and the continued testing of several new air defense command, control, communication and intelligence systems, the 4th Squadron, 3d Armored Cavalry executed flawless planning and coordination with a spirit, competence and professionalism unequaled in today's Army. The 4th Squadron, 3d Armored Cavalry's performance of these extraordinarily challenging missions, under arduous circumstances, is indicative of the outstanding devotion to duty, esprit de corps, selfless service and expertise of its members. The 4th Squadron, 3d Armored Cavalry's testing of the forward area air defense systems command, control, communication and intelligence system significantly impacted upon the entire Army. The outstanding accomplishments of the members of the 4th Squadron, 3d Armored Cavalry are in keeping with the highest traditions of military service and reflect great credit upon themselves and the United States Army."

Appendix D

REGIMENTAL MEDAL OF HONOR RECIPIENTS



The Medal of Honor awarded to Corporal Charles A. Bessey.

Fichter, Hermann	Private, Company F, 3d U.S. Cavalry. For gallantry in action at Whetstone Mountains, Arizona, 5 May 1871.
Kilmartin, John	Private, Company F, 3d U.S. Cavalry. For gallantry in action at Whetstone Mountains, Arizona, 5 May 1871.
Miller, Daniel H.	Private, Company F, 3d U.S. Cavalry. For gallantry in action at Whetstone Mountains, Arizona, 5 May 1871.
Mott, John	Sergeant, Company F, 3d U.S. Cavalry. For gallantry in action at Whetstone Mountains, Arizona, 5 May 1871.
Yount, John P.	Private, Company F, 3d U.S. Cavalry. For gallantry in action at Whetstone Mountains, Arizona, 5 May 1871.

Cody, William F.	Civilian Scout, Company B, 3d U.S. Cavalry. For gallantry in action at Loupe Fork, Platte River, Nebraska, 26 April 1872. (Medal rescinded by Act of Congress 21 April, 1916. Reinstated per findings of EEO Review Board 12 June 1989).
Foley, John H.	Sergeant, Company B, 3d U.S. Cavalry. For gallantry in action at Loupe Fork, Platte River, Nebraska, 26 April 1872.
Strayer, William H.	Private, Company B, 3d U.S. Cavalry. For gallantry in action at Loupe Fork, Platte River, Nebraska, 26 April 1872.
Vokes, Leroy H.	First Sergeant, Company B, 3d U.S. Cavalry. For gallantry in action at Loupe Fork, Platte River, Nebraska, 26 April 1872.
Glavinski, Albert	Blacksmith, Company M, 3d U.S. Cavalry. For gallantry in action at Powder River, Montana, 17 March 1876.
McGann, Michael A.	First Sergeant, Company F, 3d U. S. Cavalry. For gallantry in action at Rosebud Creek, Montana, 17 June 1876.
Murphy, Jeremiah	Private, Company M, 3d U. S. Cavalry. For gallantry in action at Powder River, Montana, 17 June 1876.
Robinson, Joseph	First Sergeant, Company D, 3d U.S. Cavalry. For gallantry in action at Rosebud Creek, Montana, 17 June 1876.
Shingle, John H.	First Sergeant, Company I, 3d U.S. Cavalry. For gallantry in action at Rosebud Creek, Montana, 17 June 1876.
Snow, Elmer A.	Trumpeter, Company M, 3d U.S. Cavalry. For gallantry in action at Rosebud Creek, Montana, 17 June 1876.
Kirkwood, John A.	Sergeant, Company M, 3d U.S. Cavalry. For gallantry in action at Slim Buttes, Dakota Territory, 9 September 1876.
Smith, Robert	Private, Company M, 3d U.S. Cavalry. For gallantry in action at Slim Buttes, Dakota Territory, 9 September 1876.
Bessey, Charles A.	Corporal, Company A, 3d U.S. Cavalry. For gallantry in action near Elkhorn Creek, Wyoming, 13 January 1877.
Lewis, William A.	Sergeant, Company B, 3d U.S. Cavalry. For gallantry in action at Bluff Station, Wyoming, 20-22 January 1877.

Morgan, George H.	2d Lieutenant, Company K, 3d U.S. Cavalry. For gallantry in action at Big Dry Wash, Arizona 17 July 1882.
Taylor, Charles	First Sergeant, Company D, 3d U.S. Cavalry. For gallantry in action at Big Dry Wash, Arizona, 17 July 1882.
Walker, Allen	Private, Troop C, 3d U.S. Cavalry. For gallantry in action in Texas, 30 December 1891.
Heard, John W.	1st Lieutenant, 3d U.S. Cavalry. For gallantry in action at the mouth of the Manimani River, West of Bahia Honda, Cuba, 23 July 1898.

Appendix E

REGIMENTAL COMMANDERS

Persifor Frazer Smith	1st Colonel	1846-1857
William Wing Loring	2nd Colonel	1857-1860
John Smith Simonson	3rd Colonel	1860-1861
Marshall Saxe Howe	4th Colonel	1862-1866
William Nicholson Grier	5th Colonel	1866-1870
Joseph Jones Reynolds	6th Colonel	1870-1877
Thomas Casimer Devin	7th Colonel	1877-1878
Washington Lafayette Elliot	8th Colonel	1878-1879
Albert Gallatin Brackette	9th Colonel	1879-1891
Albert Payson Morrow	10th Colonel	1891-1892
Anson Mills	11th Colonel	1892-1895
Guy Vernor Henry	12th Colonel	1895-1897
Samuel Baldwin Marks Young	13th Colonel	1897-1900
Wirt Davis	14th Colonel	1900-1901
Albert Emmett Woodson	15th Colonel	1901-1903
Joseph Haddox Dorst	16th Colonel	1903-1911
Hugh Lennox Scott	17th Colonel	1911-1913
Augustus Perry Blocksom	18th Colonel	1913-1917
Francis Henry Beach	19th Colonel	1917-1918
Lloyd Milton Brett	20th Colonel	1919-1920

William Cannon Rivers	21st Colonel	1920-1923
Hamilton Smith Hawkins	22nd Colonel	1923-1926
William Jefferson Glasgow	23rd Colonel	1926-1927
Guy Vernor Henry Jr.	24th Colonel	1927-1930
Harry Newton Cootes	25th Colonel	1930-1933
Kenyon Ashe Joyce	26th Colonel	1933-1936
Jonathan Mayhew Wainwright	27th Colonel	1936-1938
George Smith Patton, Jr.	28th Colonel	1938-1940
William Whitelain Gordon	29th Colonel	1940-1941
Howell M. Estes	30th Colonel	1941-1942
Frederick Weed Drury	31st Colonel	1943-1944
James H. Polk	32nd Colonel	1944-1945
Walter Burnside	33rd Colonel	1946
C. H. Valentine	34th Colonel	1946-1947
Charles A. Sheldon	35th Colonel	1947-1949
Samuel L. Myers	36th Colonel	1949-1951
James Owen Curtis, Jr.	37th Colonel	1951-1952
Clay F. Bridgewater	38th Colonel	1952-1953
Edward W. Williams	39th Colonel	1954
Clyde L. Layne	40th Colonel	1954-1955
William A. Hamberg	41st Colonel	1955-1956
Robert Edward McCabe	42nd Colonel	1956-1957
Douglas P. Frazier	43rd Colonel	1957-1958

Emmet Robert White	44th Colonel	1958-1960
John B. Maxwell, III	45th Colonel	1960-1961
Donald H. Cowles	46th Colonel	1961-1963
John R. Barclay	47th Colonel	1963-1964
William J. Boehmer	48th Colonel	1964-1966
Thomas J. Hanifen	49th Colonel	1966-1967
Gerald V. Reberry	50th Colonel	1967-1968
Sidney Hack	51st Colonel	1968-1970
Kenneth W. Kock	52nd Colonel	1970-1972
Walter W. Plummer	53rd Colonel	1972-1973
David K. Doyle	54th Colonel	1973-1975
John M. Shea	55th Colonel	1975
Grail L. Brookshire	56th Colonel	1975-1977
Joseph C. Lutz	57th Colonel	1977-1978
Richard G. Cardillo	58th Colonel	1978-1980
William A. Fitzgerald, Jr.	59th Colonel	1980-1983
James B. Taylor	60th Colonel	1983-1985
James M. Lyle	61st Colonel	1985-1987
Jarret J. Robertson	62nd Colonel	1987-1989
Douglas H. Starr	63rd Colonel	1989-1991
Robert R. Ivany	64th Colonel	1991-1993
Robert M. Young	65th Colonel	1993-1994
Robert Wilson	66th Colonel	1994-1996

Martin E. Dempsey	67th Colonel	1996-1998
Christopher L. Baggot	68th Colonel	1998-2000
Anthony W. Harriman	69th Colonel	2000-2002
David A. Teeples	70th Colonel	2002-2004
H. R. McMaster	71st Colonel	2004-2006
Michael A. Bills	72nd Colonel	2006-

Appendix F

REGIMENTAL COMMAND SERGEANTS MAJOR

Ambrose R. Winans	I RCSM	1972-1974
Charles Bolling	II RCSM	1974-1975
Jacinto Vasquez	III RCSM	1975-1978
Elton R. Allen	IV RCSM	1978-1980
Jack H. Schmidt	V RCSM	1980-1982
Guenter H. Heibich	VI RCSM	1982-1984
Harvey L. Reed	VII RCSM	1984-1985
Bennie R. Causey	VIII RCSM	1985-1987
Howell W. Ramsey	IX RCSM	1987-1989
Dennis E. Worley	X RCSM	1989-1992
Tommy E. Nester	XI RCSM	1992
Dennis E. Webster	XII RCSM	1992-1994
Robert A. Murphy	XIII RCSM	1994-1998
Timothy R. Steiner	XIV RCSM	1998-2001
David A. Hartzell, Jr.	XV RCSM	2001-2002
John R. Caldwell	XVI RCSM	2002-2005
William J. Burns	XVII RCSM	2005-

COMPLETE TEXT OF GENERAL SCOTT'S REMARKS TO THE REGIMENT AT CONTRERAS

“When the Mounted Rifles reached Contreras on August 19 and 20, they began a battle which became a 17-minute dart from the rear and ended in the capture of Contreras and all it contained.... Sergeant Hiram Dryer and the other men – dirty, hungry, and tired – threw themselves on the ground to rest. Then General Scott rode up! Of course, every man in the Regiment, with cap off, was on his feet in a moment. Immediately, a shout was heard that would have delighted the heart of any true soldier, no matter what his rank. When quiet was restored, the general addressed the men:

Brave Rifles, veterans – you have been baptized in fire and blood and come out steel. Where bloody work was to be done, “the Rifles” was the cry, and there they were. All speak of them in terms of praise and admiration. What can I say? What shall I say? Language cannot express my feelings of gratitude for your gallant conduct in the terrible conflict of yesterday and this morning. But, my brave boys, in the course of one hour more you will be engaged in a more sanguinary engagement than the one you have just passed through, and I hope and trust that you will take the same noble stand you did yesterday and this morning. And now, men of the Rifle Regiment, you may rest assured that a grateful country will reward you for your gallant deeds through this campaign. Goodbye for the present, and God bless you all.

*Private Sam McCurdy
Company D, Mounted Rifles*

Appendix H

UNITS ATTACHED TO TASK FORCE RIFLES DURING OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM I

A Company, 122 Engineer Battalion
A Company, 224th MI BN (Unmanned Aerial Vehicle)
A Company (detachment), 325th Military Intelligence Battalion
A Company, 411th Civil Affairs Battalion
B Company, 16th Signal Battalion, 3rd Signal Brigade
B Company, 202nd Military Intelligence Battalion, 504th MI BDE
B Company (detachment), 323rd Military Intelligence Battalion
B Company, 325th Military Intelligence Battalion
C Company, 2nd Battalion, 6th Infantry
C Company, 16th Signal Battalion, 3rd Signal Brigade
C Company, 890th Engineer Battalion
E Company (LRSD), 51st Infantry (ABN)
F Company, 106th Aviation Battalion
G Company, 285th Air Traffic Services
HHC, 122 Engineer Battalion
1st Platoon, B Company, 489th (M) Engineers
1st Platoon, 151st Adjutant General Company (postal)
1st Company, 1st Peacekeeping Battalion, Azerbaijani Special Brigade
1st Battalion, 124th Infantry
2nd PLT, D Company, 1st BN, 94th Field Artillery (Acquisition Radar)
2nd Battalion, 5th Field Artillery
3rd Bn, 187th Inf, 101st Airborne Division (AASLT)
54th Engineer Battalion
94th Military Police Brigade (detachment)
141st Military Intelligence Battalion (detachment)
142nd Combat Support Battalion
165th Military Intelligence Battalion (detachment)
223rd Military Intelligence Battalion (detachment)
234th Field Artillery Detachment
274th Quartermaster Company (Shower, Laundry, Clothing Repair)
297th Quartermaster Company (Rough Terrain Cargo Handler)
323nd Engineer Detachment (Fire Fighting)
432nd Civil Affairs Battalion (detachment)
502nd Personnel Service Detachment
528th Quartermaster Company (Fuel System Supply Point)
761st Ordnance Company (Explosive Ordnance Disposal)
936th Forward Surgical Team
974th Quartermaster Company
1270th Tactical Pysops Detachment
1308th Engineer Detachment (Topographic)
2133rd Transportation Company

Appendix I

TASK FORCE RIFLES PERSONNEL WHO DIED DURING OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM I

PFC Vorn J. Mack	HHT, 1/3d ACR
1LT Michael Adams	A Troop, 1/3d ACR
SGT Michael E. Dooley	B Troop, 1/3d ACR
SSG Daniel Bader	ADA Btry, 1/3d ACR
SPC Brian H. Penisten	ADA Btry, 1/3d ACR
SSG Andrew R. Pokorny	ADA Btry, 1/3d ACR
CPT Joshua T. Byers	HHT, 2/3d ACR
SPC Stephen M. Scott	HHT, 2/3d ACR
SGT Thomas F. Broomhead	E Troop, 2/3d ACR
SSG William T Latham	E Troop, 2/3d ACR
SSG Michael B. Quinn	E Troop, 2/3d ACR
PFC Justin W. Pollard.	G Troop, 2/3d ACR
PFC Jesse A. Givens	H Company, 2/3d ACR
SPC Darius T. Jennings	How Btry, 2/3d ACR
PV2 Benjamin L. Freeman	K Troop, 3/3d ACR
SSG Frederick L. Miller, Jr.	K Troop, 3/3d ACR
PFC Armando Soriano	How Btry, 3/3d ACR
CW2 Matthew Laskowski	O Troop, 4/3d ACR
CW2 Stephen Wells	O Troop, 4/3d ACR
SPC Michael A. Diraimondo	571st Medical Co, 4/3d ACR
SPC Christopher A. Golby	571st Medical Co, 4/3d ACR
CW2 Hans N. Gukeisen	571st Medical Co, 4/3d ACR
SGT Richard A. Carl	571st Medical Co, 4/3d ACR
CW2 Phillip A. Johnson	571st Medical Co, 4/3d ACR
CW2 Ian D. Manuel	571st Medical Co, 4/3d ACR
CW3 Brian K. Van Dusen	571st Medical Co, 4/3d ACR
SGT Ernest G. Bucklew	HHT, Support Squadron/3d ACR
MAJ Mathew E. Schram	HHT, Support Squadron/3d ACR
SPC Rian C. Ferguson	S & T Troop, Support Squadron/3d ACR
SGT Taft V. Williams	Maintenance Troop, “ “
SPC Tamarra J. Ramos	Medical Troop, Support Squadron/3d ACR
SSG Stephen A. Bertolino	AVIM Troop, Support Squadron/3d ACR
Spencer T. Karol	E Company (LRSD), 51st IN (ABN)
SSG Paul A. Velazques	SVC Battery, 2nd Battalion, 5th FA
SGT Joel Perez	A Battery, 2nd BN, 5th Field Artillery
SSG Joe N. Wilson	A Battery, 2nd BN, 5th Field Artillery
SGT Keelan L. Moss	B Battery, 2nd BN, 5th Field Artillery

SPC Steven D. Conover
SPC Rafael L. Navea
SGT Ross A. Pennanen
SGT Paul F. Fisher
1LT Brian D. Slavenas
CW4 Bruce A. Smith
PFC Karina S. Lau
PFC Anthony D. D'Agostino
SSG Richard S. Eaton, Jr.
SPC Francis M. Vega
PFC James A. Chance III
PFC David M. Kirchoff
SPC Aaron J. Sissel

C Battery, 2nd BN, 5th Field Artillery
C Battery, 2nd BN, 5th Field Artillery
C Battery, 2nd BN, 5th Field Artillery
F Company, 106th Aviation Battalion
F Company, 106th Aviation Battalion
F Company, 106th Aviation Battalion
B Company, 16th Signal Battalion
D Company, 16th Signal Battalion
B Company, 323rd MI BN, 205th MI BDE
1st PLT, 151st AG Company (Postal)
C Company, 890th Engineer Battalion
2133rd Transportation Company
2133rd Transportation Company

Appendix J

UNIT ATTACHED TO OR THAT WORKED WITH THE 3d ARMORED CAVALRY REGIMENT DURING OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM 04-06

2nd Battalion, 70th Armor, 1st Armored Division
2nd Battalion, 14th Cavalry, 25th Infantry Division
2nd Battalion, 325th Infantry (Airborne), 82nd Airborne Division
AOB, 390, 3rd Battalion, 3rd Special Forces Group
AOB, 530, 1st Battalion, 5th Special Forces Group
80th Area Support Team
98th Area Support Team

Appendix K

PERSONNEL ASSIGNED OR ATTACHED TO THE 3d ACR WHO DIED DURING OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM 04-06

PFC Joseph L. Knott	RHHT, 3d ACR
MAJ Douglas A. LaBouff	RHHT, 3d ACR
MAJ Michael R. Martinez	RHHT, 3d ACR
2LT Charles R. Rubado	C Troop, 1/3d ACR
SPC Joshua T. Brazee	How Btry, 1/3d ACR
SGT Charles T. Wilkerson	ADA Btry, 1/3d ACR
SGT Denis J. Gallardo	E Troop, 2/3d ACR
CPL Joseph L. Martinez	E Troop, 2/3d ACR
SGT Tyrone L. Chisholm	F Troop, 2/3d ACR
SGT Jacob M. Simpson	F Troop, 2/3d ACR
SPC Hoby F. Bradfield, Jr.	G Troop, 2/3d ACR
PFC Robert W. Murry, Jr.	G Troop, 2/3d ACR
PFC Ricky W. Rockholt, Jr.	G Troop, 2/3d ACR
PFC Eric P. Woods	G Troop, 2/3d ACR
SSG Brian L. Freeman	I Troop, 3/3d ACR
CPL Jared W. Kubasak	I Troop, 3/3d ACR
SFC Christopher W. Phelps	I Troop, 3/3d ACR
CPL Robert C. Pope II	I Troop, 3/3d ACR
PFC Mario A. Reyes	I Troop, 3/3d ACR
1LT Justin S. Smith	I Troop, 3/3d ACR
SPC Ernest W. Dallas, Jr.	K Troop, 3/3d ACR
SSG Jason W. Montefering	K Troop, 3/3d ACR
SGT Milton M. Monzon, Jr.	K Troop, 3/3d ACR
PFC Ramon A. Villatoro, Jr.	K Troop, 3/3d ACR
SPC Ronnie D. Williams	K Troop, 3/3d ACR
SPC Eric J. Poelman	L Troop, 3/3d ACR
SPC Brian S. Ulbrich	L Troop, 3/3d ACR
SSG Justin L. Vasquez	L Troop, 3/3d ACR
SFC Eric P. Pearrow	M Company, 3/3d ACR
SGT Timothy J. Sutton	M Company, 3/3d ACR
SSG Scottie L. Bright	How Btry, 3/3 ACR
CPL Lyle J. Cambridge	How Btry, 3/3 ACR
SPC Robert A. Swaney	How Btry, 3/3 ACR
SSG Jeremy A. Brown	66th MI Company, 3/3d ACR
1LT Joseph D. deMoors	66th MI Company, 3/3d ACR
CW2 Dennis P. Hay	P Troop, 4/3d ACR
SGT Timothy R. Boyce	Maintenance Troop, Supt/3d ACR

CPL Jeffrey A. Williams
SFC Brett E. Walden
LTC Terrance K. Crowe
SFC Robert V. Derenda
SGT Ivan V. Alarcon

Medical Troop, Supt/3d ACR
1st Battalion, 5th Special Forces Group
98th AST Military Transition Team
80th AST Military Transition Team
473rd Quartermaster Company

Appendix L

CURRENT ORGANIZATION OF THE REGIMENT

Configuration of Maneuver Squadrons

Armored Cavalry Squadrons

Headquarters and Headquarters Troop
Cavalry Troop
Cavalry Troop
Cavalry Troop
Tank Company
Self-propelled Howitzer Battery
Attached units*

Aviation Squadron

Headquarters and Headquarters Troop
Attack Helicopter Troop
Attack Helicopter Troop
Attack Helicopter Troop
Utility Helicopter Troop
Intermediate Maintenance Troop
Forward Support Troop

3d Armored Cavalry (*Brave Rifles*) Regiment

Regimental Headquarters and Headquarters (*Remington*) Troop

1st (*Tiger*) Squadron

Headquarters (*Roughrider*) Troop
A (*Apache*) Troop
B (*Bandit*) Troop
C (*Crazyhorse*) Troop
D (*Dragon*) Company
Howitzer (*King*) Battery

2nd (*Saber*) Squadron

Headquarters (*Rattler*) Troop
E (*Eagle*) Troop
F (*Fox*) Troop
G (*Grim*) Troop
H (*Heavy*) Company
Howitzer (*Lion*) Battery
43rd Engineer (*Sapper*) Company*

3rd (*Thunder*) Squadron

Headquarters (*Havoc*) Troop
I (*Ironhawk*) Troop
K (*Killer*) Troop
L (*Lightning*) Troop
M (*Maddog*) Company
Howitzer (*Regulator*) Battery
66th (*Ghostrider*) Military Intelligence Company*

4th (*Longknife*) Squadron

Headquarters (*Headhunter*) Troop
N (*Nomad*) Troop
O (*Outlaw*) Troop
P (*Pegasus*) Troop
R (*Renegade*) Troop
S (*Stetson*) Troop
T (*Tomahawk*) Troop
AVIM (*Air Raider*) Troop

Support (*Muleskinner*) Squadron

Headquarters and Headquarters (*Bullwhip*) Troop
Supply and Transportation (*Packhorse*) Troop
Medical (*Scalpel*) Troop
Maintenance (*Blacksmith*) Troop
89th Chemical (*Chem Dawg*) Company

Weapons Systems and Aircraft

M1A2SEP V2 Abrams main battle tank	41 per squadron (1st, 2nd, 3rd)
M3A2 Bradley cavalry fighting vehicle	41 per squadron (1st, 2nd, 3rd)
M109A6 Paladin 155mm self-propelled howitzer	6 per squadron (1st, 2nd, 3rd)
M121 120mm mortar carrier	6 per squadron (1st, 2nd, 3rd)
M2A2 ODS Bradley fighting vehicle	X in Engineer Company
AH-64D Apache attack helicopter	8 per troop (N, O, P)
UH-60L Blackhawk utility helicopter	10 per troop (S)

Cavalry Missions

Reconnaissance Operations

Zone Reconnaissance
Area Reconnaissance

Security Operations

Screen
Guard
Cover



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